

New Owner Shares Big Dreams for Future of Highpoint Events



Photo from Highpoint Events Website

(By Nathan Vandrey) “It’s been an adventure and a love affair so far, but it’s been non-stop since we pulled in!” That’s how Eric Rowles, who, along with his wife Alyssa, purchased the Highpoint Orchard property in September of this year with dreams of turning the venue into a popular and profitable event center - now called “[Highpoint Events](#).” With a solid background in event producing and marketing for a number of Indianapolis events and venues, Eric, a former

roadie and self-proclaimed “art school drop out,” wasn’t looking to add another move to his life. But when he and Alyssa saw the property on a realtor listing, he said they immediately fell in love with it. While they waited a few days to arrange a showing, he said they were already thinking, “how are we going to buy this.”

After purchasing the property, the Rowles hit the ground running with their Fall Festival occurring only 8 days after closing on the orchard. The event was a big success, with about 2500 people visiting, and it has since been followed by 6 weddings and 12 other events! Next year is already looking busy with another fifteen weddings on the books and more to come.

The first stone foundation at the Highpoint Events property was placed in 1854 and is still visible as the foundation and basement walls of the "Mill Barn" - the smaller of the two event buildings on site. Since then the property has changed hands a number of times, with Randy and Karen Cyman founding “Highpoint Orchard” in 2005 and, 15 years later, Vital and Kuyhlia Hulsbosch taking over the property and shifting it towards an event venue. It was the Hulsboschs who turned the property’s barn into the large event center, known as the “Gathering Hall,” seen today.

“Highpoint” Cont’d on Pg 2



Photo from Highpoint Events Website

ROTARY CALENDAR

Nov 21 - RYLA kids report
Nov 28 - John Corya - Gemstone
Dec 05 - (Rex McKinney)
Dec 12 - (Doug Orr)

OFFICERS 2022-2023

Alex Sefton	President
Jenni Hanna	Past President
Rob DeHoff	President-Elect
Lora Williams	Secretary
Linda Simmons	Treasurer
Jeff Emsweller	Public Relations
Tami Wenning	Vocational Service
Daryl Tressler	Sergeant-At-Arms
Emily Steele	Club / Youth Service
Jerry Fox	Int’l Service
Kelby Owens	Membership Director
Larry Moore	Rotary Foundation Chair
Mandy Lohrum	Asst District Governor



Support Greensburg Rotary’s 26th Annual Poinsettia Fundraiser!

Greensburg Rotary Club’s annual Poinsettia Sales Fundraiser is ONGOING! Club President Alex Sefton set the goal of surpassing last year’s record sale of 694 Poinsettias for a total of \$6,940 in sales, netting ~\$2,700 for local Rotary scholarships

A copy of the sales form has been emailed to all members and will also be attached to all Greensburg Rotary Bulletins during the fundraiser. Forms and checks (made payable to Greensburg Rotary Club) are due by **21 November**.

Poinsettia pick-up/delivery days will be **2 & 3 December** at the Decatur County Family YMCA. A sign up sheet for volunteering is attached showing the available shifts. Please contact Diane at Phone: (812) 663-9622 or email: dianehd@dcfymca.org as soon as possible -- let’s fill up the whole schedule!

GREENSBURG ROTARY PRESIDENT’S CHAT

Hey, all!

Last week, I told you in my President’s Message that I was excited for snow, and we got it! My wife and I went on a Christmas decoration shopping spree in Indy over the weekend, and I am beyond ready to watch “Elf,” drink hot chocolate, and drive around to find Christmas lights!

If you missed Rotary this week, you missed a great program at a new location! Thanks to Eric Rowles for hosting us at Highpoint Orchard! Next week, we will welcome our Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) students.

Have a great week! You are loved!

Best, Alex

GREENSBURG ROTARY IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!

- Poinsettia Sales Delivery & Pick-up Volunteer Sign-up sheet is attached to this bulletin and shows all shifts Dec 2-3 requiring support; Please contact Diane Hart-Dawson by phone at 812-663-9622 or by email at dianehd@dcfymca.org if you are able to help
- The Annual Rotary Online Christmas Auction is Dec 12-19; Items for donation should be dropped off with Tami Wenning at the Decatur Co. Community Foundation Offices (101 E. Main St., Ste 1, Greensburg) — Please drop off items early enough for photos to be taken and posted to the auction website!
- The Greensburg Rotary Christmas Party is scheduled for Dec 09 at the Bruner Event Center (102 N. Webster St., St Paul) beginning at 530p; The St Paul Museum (120 N. Webster St., St Paul) will remain open until 600p for interested Rotarians; Price is \$25/person; Catering by Deborah Sellers; A copy of official invitation is attached to this bulletin
- Rotary Youth Exchange Local Coordinator Needed: Greensburg Rotary needs a volunteer to act as local coordinator for the 2023/2024 school year Rotary Youth Exchange; this person will coordinate background checks with the district coordinator and work with the student, host parents, school administration, and Greensburg Rotarians to ensure the student has the opportunity to engage in multiple cultural activities and attend some local and district Rotary meetings and events. Please contact Alex Sefton or Lora Williams if interested!
- Upcoming Service Projects: Greensburg Rotary will be supporting the following events in December. Please sign up to support at the weekly meeting or by contacting Alex Sefton
 - Wreaths Across America - placing holiday wreaths on the graves of local veterans; This event is scheduled for 17 December
 - Cheer Fund donation collection at Needlers Grocery (volunteers will be inside the warm building!); This event is scheduled for Dec 22 with volunteers working in pairs for one-hour shifts

“Highpoint” Cont’d

Despite this success, the Rowles still have visions for upgrading the property and facilities. Now that they and their children have moved on site, Eric is planning to upgrade the Mill Barn, with the stone basement becoming a Speak Easy-themed venue. He also intends to add a stage in the orchard for a planned summer concert series with seating for 550. The Rowles are also entertaining the idea of possibly adding a distillery, winery, or brewery on the property.

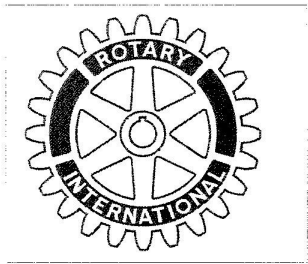
Still, according to Eric, despite all their hopes and plans for the future, their top goal is to become a part of the Greensburg/Decatur County community. The Rowles knew they had moved to some place special when, after posting online about their purchase of the property and the upcoming Fall Festival, they received 94 comments from members of the local community saying, “Welcome!”, and they want to be a part of that type of community.



GREENSBURG ROTARY CLUB

2022
26th ANNUAL
HOLIDAY POINSETTIA SALE

We are offering superior quality Poinsettias
for the low price of \$11.00 per plant.



THE 2022 POINSETTIAS ARE:

- FROM Kruger-Maddux Greenhouse
- 12" - 18" TALL PLANTS
- 5 - 7 BLOOMS
- FOIL WRAPPED AND COVERED IN A 6 1/2" POT
- CHOICE OF RED, WHITE, MARBLE, PINK OR SPECKLE (RED & PINK) BLOOMS

THIS SALE OF POINSETTIAS SERVES TWO PRIMARY PURPOSES:

- To raise funds for the county, scholarships to our local students and other worthy Rotary community service projects.
- To reward the public with an excellent product.

Poinsettia PICK-UP:

Friday, December 2, 2022----- 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Saturday, December 3, 2022 ---- 10 AM – 11:30 AM

at the Decatur County Family YMCA

1 YMCA Way

Greensburg, IN 47240

For more information, phone 812-663-9622 (ask for Diane Hart-Dawson) or email dianehtd@dcfymca.org

I ordered _____ Poinsettia (s) @ \$11.00 each, Red _____ White _____ Pink _____ Marble _____ Speckle _____
RCD By _____ Pick-up _____ Delivery _____ (Greensburg only & an extra charge of \$1 per plant)
You may keep this top portion as a receipt. (Top Portion Customer Copy)

ORDER FORM POINSETTIAS 2022 SOLD BY _____

Return to: Greensburg Rotary Club, c/o Diane Hart-Dawson, Decatur County Family YMCA, Greensburg, IN 47240
or email dianehtd@dcfymca.org.

Name _____ Phone _____ Bus Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

I want to order _____ Poinsettia (s) @ \$11.00 each, Red _____ White _____ Pink _____ Marble _____ Speckle _____

Included is a check for \$ _____, Made payable to Greensburg Rotary Club.

Pick-Up _____ Delivered _____ (Greensburg only & an extra charge of \$1 per plant)

Return order form and check no later than November 21, 2022. (Orders will be accepted after this date but cannot be guaranteed)

Signature _____ Date _____

**Rotary Poinsettia
Volunteer Help Needed
Sign Up Sheet**

December 2 & 3, 2022 @ the YMCA

Friday, December 2, 2022

1:30 – 4:30 - Delivery

1. _____

3. _____

2. _____

3:30 – 4:30

1. Lora Williams _____

3. _____

2. _____

4. _____

4:30 – 5:30

1. _____

3. _____

2. _____

4. _____

Saturday, December 3, 2022

10:00 – 10:45

1. _____

3. _____

2. _____

10:45 – 11:30

1. _____

3. _____

2. _____

Please let me know if you are willing to help deliver during your shift.

Thanks,

Diane

(812) 663-9622

dianehd@dcfymca.org

You're Invited

Greensburg Rotary Club

Holiday Party

WHEN Friday, December 9, 2022, 5:30pm
WHERE Bruner Event Centre, 102 N Webster Street, St. Paul
COST \$25/person
RSVP Emily Steele at 317-697-5480

Doors Open at 5:30pm

**Take Tour of
the St. Paul
Museum**

