



Rotary Club of Ann Arbor for 2005-2006

Norman G. Herbert, President
Ingrid B. Sheldon, Vice President
J. Downs Herold, Secretary
John G. Ackenhusen, Treasurer
Paul E. Glendon, Past President
Bernard Bedell, Endowment Chair
David R. Gunderson, Endowment Treasurer
Alphonse R. Burdi, Sgt. at Arms

Nishta Bhatia, Director
James W. Cook, Director
C. Beth Fitzsimmons, Director
Ian T. Glassford, Director
Debra Polich, Director
Raymond Rabidoux, Director
John White, Club Administrator
Don Faber, Harpoon Editor

P.O. Box 131217
Ann Arbor MI 48113-1217
www.annarborrotary.org
a2rotary@comcast.net
(734) 662-1734

Meetings: Wednesday at noon
U-M Union, 530 S. State St.

"Harpoon" is the weekly newsletter of the Rotary Club of Ann Arbor. Contact the club to subscribe by email.

The Program for September 7, 2005

Speaker: Eileen Spring, Executive Director, Food Gatherers –Ann Arbor

Topic: "Food Gatherers--Helping the Hungry in our Community"

Executive Director Eileen Spring will explain the role and activities of Food Gatherers in our community. Who are the hungry and how does a food bank help them in Michigan? Learn how community service programs like Food Gatherers access food resources and develop creative ways to address the root causes of hunger.

Host/Introducer: Chris McMullen **Song Leader:** Lloyd Bastian **Accompanist:** Deanna Relyea

Also, Liz Barry will kick off the "Get to Know Not-For-Profits" series with her introduction of the Interfaith Hospitality program at Alpha House.

Looking Ahead

September 14 (Wednesday) - Carol Hutchins, Head Coach, U-M Softball Program, "The National Championship was Great but We Need to Focus on 2006 and Beyond!"

Also, Chief Dan Oates will join us to present awards to a number of Ann Arbor fire fighters.

Reminder for Officers and Directors: The September Board meeting will be held this day instead of the usual third Wednesday. Time (7:30am) and place (Washtenaw United Way offices) are the same.

September 21 (Wednesday) - Edward M. Gramlich, Retired Governor of Federal Reserve Board, "Life at the Fed!"

September 28 (Wednesday) - Phil Alexander, Tour Leader, "Our Friendship Exchange Trip to Our Centennial Twin Clubs in India"

News from the Meeting of August 31

Markey Butler had exciting news about the September 8th Rotary Golf Outing and Family Night. She is still hoping for more tennis players. The family time will have great children's events that the young ones will love. Ken Fischer will be the auctioneer. But sadly for us, happily for Markey, this is her final event because she is moving to Colorado. The standing ovation that Markey received was well deserved.

This year we will have eight ambassadorial scholars in Ann Arbor so John Rasmussen needs a few more sponsors. Sponsoring a scholar means introducing a stranger to our culture and helping them adjust to life in our country, truly a heart-warming experience that can lead to life-long friendships with exciting people. Note: Anyone interested in serving on the District 6380 Ambassadorial Scholar Committee can e-mail John at a2appraisal@aol.com or call him at home (734-995-8483).

Bernie Galler is searching for a few more youth players for the Ypsilanti Student Orchestra. Bernie pointed out that the Student Orchestra is a well-disciplined, fully symphonic orchestra in which the young people will gain musical discipline.

Pam Horiszny, Executive Director of the Washtenaw Chapter of the American Red Cross, gave us a description of American Red Cross (ARC) work following the Katrina disaster. ARC is officially a primary agency responsible for disaster relief. Pam estimated that the work will continue for three to six months because this may be the worst U.S. disaster in history. ARC needs about \$130M but has \$20M available at this moment. President Norman has created a mechanism whereby contributions can be made to the Ann Arbor Rotary Club for ARC disaster relief. Pam stated that ARC also needs volunteer workers. Deployed volunteers must be at least age 18, in good health, have a driver's license, be available for at least 2-3 weeks, and be willing to receive ten hours training. Pam also needs administrative volunteers in the Ann Arbor chapter office. If interested in helping in any way, call The Washtenaw County Chapter at 734-971-5300 or visit their website at <http://www.wc-redcross.org/>. Note: for other ways you can help, see the article at the end of this newsletter.

Notes from the Program of August 31



Cheryl Elliott introduced David Rutledge and our own Sandy Rupp who told us about the Washtenaw Project Great Start Commission (GSC). The GSC's task is to develop community recommendations to help ensure positive early development and school readiness for all children in Washtenaw County. The GSC is composed of 27 business and community leaders, 6 of whom are Rotarians (22%, "Service above Self"). The GSC is a joint effort between the Washtenaw Intermediate School District and Washtenaw United Way. Six recommendations have resulted.

1. Raise public awareness. This means awareness of the importance of positive early child development for later academic success.
2. Improve access to effective services. Many children lack health insurance so they need to know about resources.
3. Improve access to effective services to improve the quality of child care through training and skill building.
4. Learn about supportive services such as home visiting services.
5. Connect to and coordinate the available support services.
6. Finally, influence public policy about early child development.

Scott Westerman commented that school performance strongly correlates with the parent's level of literacy. Program Kick-off is September 26th, 7:30 am at the ARC offices, hosted by Pam Horiszny.

The News and Notes were prepared by Bob Buchanan. Fred Beutler provided the photographs.

President Norman's Thought for the Day. "Do not limit children to your own learning because they will be born into another time."

Meeting Statistics: Our reported attendance at this day's meeting was 113 members. We had one visiting Rotarian and two guests. In addition, ten members participated in the committee meeting for the Golf Outing/Fun Day.

Other Notes of Interest

Birthdays: September 5 – Cheryl Elliott and Bob Pratt, September 6 – Jim Frenza, September 8- Bob Buchanan and Lois Jelneck, September 10 – Roger Pohl.

Make-up Cards: Fred Beutler (Pune Central – India). This make-up was from January and took a little time in getting here.

Visiting Rotarians: Our club exchanged flags with Chong-Youl Kim, a past president of the Rotary Club of Seoul-Poshingak in Korea. Chong-Youl is spending a semester in Ann Arbor as a visiting professor in the U-M School of Dentistry. His wife accompanied him to the meeting. A photo of his club's flag will appear in an upcoming issue.

Meeting Attendance Highlights: For the meetings held in August, the attendance figure reported to the District was 58%. "Five-Star Attendees" (those present for all five Wednesday meetings) were Bruce Benner, Lee Danielson, Millie Danielson, Robben Fleming, Hal Flynn, Doug Freeth, Bob Green, Walt Hancock, Norman Herbert, Lois Jelneck, Mal Lowther, Bob Pehlke, Joanne Pierson, Agnes Reading, Don Robinson, Burt Voss and Scott Westerman.

Compilation of Committee Memberships: One of President Norman's initiatives this year is to compile a list of the members for each committee within the Club. The schedule for this undertaking calls for the work to be complete by the end of September. Each Director and Officer will be responsible for ensuring the Committee Chairs in his or her area identify all the members serving on their committees. Each member serving on a committee should make sure his or her chair has their name on the list.

Golf Outing and Family Fun Day on Thursday, September 8: The big event is upon us! Members attending the meeting of September 7 will have a last chance to sign up. The registration form is also on the event flyer which can be printed out from the Club website at <http://annarborrotary.org/golf.pdf>. Attached to this newsletter is the final auction listing. Check it out as a preview of the great items you can win. Also at the meeting on Wednesday, you will be able to pre-bid on the items. If you can't attend the meeting or the auction, you may email your bids to John White at jtwhite@umich.edu. Pre-bids must be received by midnight on Wednesday.

Rotarians in the News: It was a big week for this section of the Harpoon.

In the September issue of the Ann Arbor Observer, several local music presenters, who get into a lot of events free, were asked which performers they would pay to hear. Deanna Relyea and Robb Woulfe were two of the interviewees. Deanna, Director of the Kerrytown Concert House, said her picks would be jazz pianists Bill Charlap and Fred Hersch. Robb, Executive Director of the Ann Arbor Summer Festival, picked James Taylor, k.d. lang, Dianne Reeves, Lyle Lovett, Jill Scott and David Wilcox.

In the Local Section of the Ann Arbor News on August 29, Bob Green was featured in an article, "It's easy being Dr. Green." The contents described his forty year medical career in Ann Arbor and his passion for theatre, both acting and attending. You can read the entire article at <http://www.mlive.com/search/index.ssf?/base/news-14/1125326653317190.xml?aanews?NEA&coll=2>.

In the annual M Edition of the Ann Arbor News on September 1, several Rotarians were interviewed. Russ Collins was featured in an article about the Michigan Theatre. The article is on-line at

<http://www.mlive.com/search/index.ssf?/base/features-0/1125069209200291.xml?aanews?NESPE&coll=2>.

Three others were highlighted in a series entitled, "My Time on Campus." Names, dates and links follow.

Hal Flynn, 1949-1952,

<http://www.mlive.com/search/index.ssf?/base/news-14/1125069364200290.xml?aanews?NESPE&coll=2>,

Pat Pooley, 1955-1958,

<http://www.mlive.com/search/index.ssf?/base/news-14/1125069367200290.xml?aanews?NESPE&coll=2> and

Cheryl Elliott, 1969-1973,

<http://www.mlive.com/search/index.ssf?/base/news-14/1125069314200290.xml?aanews?NESPE&coll=2>

While having three of the 17 vignettes feature Rotarians may be no surprise, it should be noted that Rotarian Geoff Larcom was the reporter who compiled the series. His own recollections of the years 1976-1980 appeared on September 5,

<http://www.mlive.com/search/index.ssf?/base/news-14/1125915000149610.xml?aanews?NEA&coll=2>

Social Committee Meeting: On Wednesday, September 21, at 11:30am in the Anderson Room, there will be a Social Committee meeting to discuss the coming year's events. All Social committee members and any wannabes, are welcome to attend to offer their ideas. We welcome new people and suggestions. Any questions? Contact Millie Danielson at milled@umich.edu or 663-9881.

It's Rotary Reader Time!: With the start of the new school year, Barbara DeBrodt is looking for members who are willing to spend a little time each week with students at Angell School on reading and math. You will be hearing details soon. As you know, literacy is one of RI's major initiatives for this year.

2005-2006 Membership Dues: As of September 4, we are still short dues from 26 members. Reminder letters will be mailed on September 6. If you are not sure whether you have paid, see John White at a meeting, call him at 662-1734 or send an email to jtwhite@umich.edu.

Rotary Response to the Devastation of Hurricane Katrina: Following is the opening of an article from the Rotary International Newsroom. "In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, one of the worst natural disasters in U.S. history, Rotary clubs and districts from throughout the affected Gulf Coast region and beyond sprang into action to collect necessary food and supplies, raise money, and provide shelter to refugees." You can read the entire article, and get links to other related ones, at http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/programs/050901_katrina.html.

There are ways you can help right now. One is to write a check to the Ann Arbor Rotary Endowment and note "Katrina Relief" on the memo line. Another is to support fellow Rotarian Geoff Baker as he heads out this week for Houston where he will personally help victims of the Disaster. You can reach him through Blue Hill Development at 734-663-2500. A detailed list of opportunities is contained in the following letter that was sent recently from Bob Baker, our District Governor, to each of the Club Presidents in District 6380.

Dear Presidents:

Our thoughts and prayers are with those suffering and in need because of Katrina. Many of you have contacted me regarding what Rotary and our District is doing and what your club might do to help those suffering in this crisis. Below is information I have received from a number of sources as of yesterday (9/4/05).

1. THE ROTARY FOUNDATION has established a "Donor Advised Fund" where Rotarians can contribute through the Foundation and designate it for Katrina Relief. Details at www.rotary.org.

2. Governors Stuart Vance, D6820 - MS, and Neil Alford D6840 - LA/MS have launched a joint effort to identify people needing Rotary help. A bank account has been set up to receive, steward, and disperse funds to families in the Gulf Coast area. Send donations to Rotary Katrina Fund, Bill Simmons, District Treasurer, 627 Sherwood Rd. Starkville MS 39759. Wire transfers accepted via rout #065300486, account #55360036.

Funds will be available to anyone in need. All requests will need to be approved by a Rotary Club or the appropriate District Governor. Immediate needs, such as emergency housing, will get priority. Guidelines will provide for responsible distribution of funds.

3. D6200 in LA also has a fund for Katrina victims. Send funds directly to: RI District 6200 Foundation Inc., Jancie Bradshaw, Box 44365, Lafayette LA 70504. For further information, contact Joe Hidalgo of the Opelousas Sunrise Rotary Club at: jbhidalgo@aol.com. He is coordinating district efforts in the use of funds, mobilizing volunteers and receipt of shipped goods (see below).

Comments from DG Don Chauvin: "I have been inundated with e-mails, calls and well wishes. What a blessing to know the Rotary spirit of "Service Above Self" is alive and well. The support makes me proud to be a Rotarian. And for that I say, 'THANK YOU!' Our most pressing need is feeding people and giving them water. At this point, it's much easier for Rotarians to send us funds so we can buy water locally and distribute it where the greatest need exists rather than for them to ship us product."

4. There are opportunities for Rotary volunteers to travel to District 6200 and help. Since housing is almost non-existent, it would be best if those going could come with an RV. Contact Joe Hidalgo (above) for details.

5. Preparations are being made to accept Relief Goods. Contact Joe Hidalgo BEFORE shipping product so he can make arrangements for proper receipt. Items needed: blankets, diapers, baby formula, Ensure, powdered milk, bottled water, bread, canned goods, can openers, sugar, artificial sweetener, plastic plates and tableware, toiletries, feminine hygiene supplies, toilet paper, disposable razors, towels, wash cloths, first aid kits, insect repellent, cleaning and disinfecting supplies, gloves, trash bags, paper towels, flashlights, batteries and clothing. Help in sorting and labeling these supplies before sending would be appreciated.

6. The RED CROSS is currently operating shelters supporting the massive evacuations. Donations are being used to supply food water and other supplies to affected individuals. In keeping with President Carl-Wilhelm's suggestion to partner with other agencies and not re-invent the wheel, the Red Cross will accept and recognize Rotary generated funds. At this time they are not able to handle donated items.

I hope through your efforts, those in need will begin to see some hope and light shining into their dark corners of despair. I know all of our prayers are with them as the struggle to maintain their existence, health and family unity, while contemplating how to start to rebuild their lives.

Wishing you success in practicing "Service Above Self."

Bob Baker, District 6380 Governor, 2005-2006, Rotary International

----- "Service above Self" -----