



Rotary Club of Ann Arbor for 2005-2006

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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 October 5, 2005

Speaker: Lynn Rivers, Ann Arbor, Former U.S. Congressperson

Topic: "Lawmaking in Today's America: The Good, Bad, and REALLY Ugly!"

Lynn Rivers, also former Ann Arbor school board member, will speak on the extremely important topic: how legislation is really made in the U.S. Congress. When are the most critical times to contact Congress on matters important to you? Who you should contact besides your local representative? Stayed tuned...she has the answers with her rich experiences and many views from the "Hill."

Host/Introducer: Mary Rinne Barnett **Song Leader:** Ingrid Sheldon **Accompanist:** Joan Knoertzer

Looking Ahead

October 7 (Friday) – last day to nominate individuals for the new member class of November 9.

October 12 (Wednesday) – Official visit of District Governor Bob Baker. His topic will be, "The Four Avenues of Service." Later that day will be a ceremony to charter the Interact Club at Pioneer High.

October 19 (Wednesday) - Robert P. Kelch, M.D., UM Executive Vice-President for Medical Affairs, "The UM Health System: A Progress Report and Look toward the Future."

October 26 (Wednesday) - Kevin Webber, General Manager-Engineering, Toyota Tech Center, USA, "Products Development for the Environment"

November 2 and 9 (Wednesdays) – Regular weekly meetings. Details later.

November 10 (Thursday) – The Rotary Foundation Gala, Novi Sheraton Hotel. Details later but mark your calendar now.

News from the Meeting of September 28

President Norman thanked Jim Cook for filling in last week and members thanked him as well.

Membership nomination forms are due Oct. 7 for the new class to be inducted at the meeting on November 9.

Be sure to check out next month's stellar speaker program. And don't miss Oct. 12 when the district governor will be in attendance.

A reception is planned for Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars Oct. 2 at 1 p.m. at the home of John Rasmussen. You're welcome to attend.

Jerry Hodge was thanked by Al Storey for the former's outstanding calligraphy which appears on our Junior Rotarians' certificates. Calligraphy is going computerized these days, but we won't forget Jerry's artistry.

Al Storey introduced our Junior Rotarians from Huron High: Damian Chatman (in absentia), Gabriel Fernandez and Payal Attawal. We'll hear from them at the next meeting.

Notes from the Program of September 28



Joanne Pierson introduced Phil Alexander, tour leader of the club's recent Rotary trip to India. Other traveling members included Elaine Alexander, Fred and Sue Beutler, Ashish Sarkar and Nancy and Jim Martin. The presentation was loosely entitled "Our friendship exchange trip to our Centennial twin clubs in India, Pune Central and Bangalore Midtown."

After a 17 hour flight, our tired Rotarians were treated to a reception at Pune Central. Flags were exchanged and members attended a drama competition sponsored by Pune Central. Also visited were Pune Central's service sites: schools for the blind and the deaf. We were told our club had purchased four reading machines at the school for the blind.

Fred Beutler remarked "how dedicated Pune Central was to service." That club also sponsors several Interact and Rotaract clubs, the former consisting of handicapped kids.

Our Rotarians saw examples of "the new India" in a 4,000 employee high tech software company in Pune. The "strong service ethic" was also evident in Bangalore Midtown, a club which operates a dispensary, a school for poor kids and a computer education center. Ann Arbor Rotary gave \$3,000 in material aid for Bangalore's two vocational schools. Incidentally, all members of Bangalore Midtown are Paul Harris Fellows.

Costs in India? Well, medical insurance will set you back 11 cents a month! You can have open heart surgery, complete with aftercare, for \$1,500. But there's still a big underclass in India and a lot to be done, we were reminded.

On the sightseeing portion of the trip, Jim and Nancy Martin showed slides of Agra, Delhi and Jodhpur, as well as other cities.

The highlight of the show was the very first presentation of ambassador of good will pins to our traveling Rotarians. This award, sponsored by our club and the two India clubs, will be given to traveling Rotarians who promote the goals of Rotary. Phil said he hopes to expand the awards to other clubs by promoting it at the district level. Who knows, it may catch on big time, in which case we were witness to the first presentation of pins – an historic moment!

The News and Notes were prepared by Don Faber. Dave Felbeck provided the photographs.

Meeting Statistics: Our reported attendance at this day's meeting was 129 members.

Other Notes of Interest

Birthdays: October 3 – Fred Beutler and Bernie Galler, October 4 – Chuck Rubin, October 5 – Bob Livingston

Make-up Cards: Barbara Bryant (RC of Chelsea in London and the Queen Mary 2 at sea), Frode Maaseidvaag (Hart) and Jim Martin (Milford).



Rotarians in the News: The Ann Arbor News of Sunday 10/2 reported the honors it received from the Michigan Press Association. Geoff Larcom was noted for a feature story about two families who chose to let their critically ill children die rather than prolong their suffering.

Monthly Attendance Report to the District: Our report for September was 65% with an average attendance of 136 members per meeting.

★★★★ **Attendees for September:** The following members attended all four weekly meetings in September. Elaine Alexander, Phil Alexander, Lloyd Bastian, Bruce Benner, Rob Boehnke, Al Burdi, Lou Callaway, Chuck Cares, Flip Connell, Jim Cook, Pete Eberbach, Dick Elwell, Don Faber, Dave Felbeck, Hal Flynn, Doug Freeth, Ginny Geren, Anne Glendon, Walt Hancock, Walt Helmreich, Downs Herold, Maurita Holland, Bob Holmes, Ray Hunter, Lois Jelneck, David Keosaian, Gloria Kerry, Joan Knoertzer, Dave Krehbiel, Ed Lady, Rollie Leeds, Mike Marich, Dave Matthews, Chris McMullen, Roy More, Tony Nam, Sang Nam, Sam Offen, Chuck Olson, Joanne Pierson, Jerry Prescott, Don Robinson, Dave Schmidt, Ann Schriber, Marlys Schutjer, Ingrid Sheldon, Victor Stoeffler, Bob Warner, Scott Westerman, Milo White, Ed Wier and Paul Wright.



Report from District 6200 on Hurricane Rita: Bob Baker, our DG, has been getting some inquiries as to the Rotary response to the hurricanes and flooding in the south. Attached to this Harpoon is a letter from Don Chauvin, one of his fellow governors in the Louisiana/Mississippi area, with an update on the situation. Here is an excerpt:

“I want to give you an update on the damages sustained by District 6200 from Hurricane Rita which raked the entire Louisiana gulf coast early last Saturday morning before turning north following the Sabine River. This storm affected all 50 of the clubs here in D6200 some clubs much worse than others. Rita brought both high winds and a huge storm surge that quickly

redefined the Louisiana coastline. Flooding occurred several miles inland and what the wind didn’t destroy, the water from the storm surge did.”

The letter goes on to list the supplies that are desperately needed and provides directions on how to offer several forms of help. More information is also available on the District 6200 website at <http://www.rotary6200.org>. For a larger overview of Rotary-related response to the recent hurricanes, go to <http://www.rotary.org/programs/wcs/disaster/reliefefforts.html>.



More Participation Sought for the Harpoon: If the article in last week’s edition didn’t stir your interest as a publisher, here is another chance. The Harpoon Planning Committee is seeking help from more Rotarians in the assembly, editing and publication of our weekly newsletter. The current committee members are willing to take a greater role but a person, or persons, with the interests, skills and technology to take the primary responsibility would be best. Anyone interested? Contact John White at a2rotary@comcast.net or 662-1734.

Compilation of Committee Memberships: Thanks to those chairs who have submitted their lists. Most are in. For the rest, please get them to John White or Downs Herold at a meeting or by email to a2rotary@comcast.net.

----- “Service above Self” -----