

#### Rotary Club of Ann Arbor for 2005-2006

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John White, Club Administrator  
Don Faber, Harpoon Editor

P.O. Box 131217  
Ann Arbor MI 48113-1217  
[www.annarborrotary.org](http://www.annarborrotary.org)  
[a2rotary@comcast.net](mailto:a2rotary@comcast.net)  
(734) 662-1734

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

The Rotary Club of Ann Arbor sponsors the U-M Rotaract Club and the Interact Clubs at [Huron](#) and [Pioneer](#) High Schools  
*"Harpoon" is the weekly newsletter of the Rotary Club of Ann Arbor. Contact the club to subscribe by email.*

## The Program for February 1, 2006

**Speaker:** John Drake, Senior Vice President, CMS Energy

**Topic:** "The Lingap Orphanage Project for Children in the Philippines"

John Drake is a senior executive of CMS Energy in Jackson and a former colleague of several Club members. Through his sole efforts, a desperately needed new orphanage is being built in a remote, poverty stricken location on the island of Cebu in the Philippines. Our Club, after hearing John's inspiring story of the local needs he was addressing, has helped formulate and execute a Rotary International Humanitarian Project to furnish the orphanage. We have done this in conjunction with the Toledo West Club in the Philippines and with the two Jackson Rotary Clubs. John is just back from a trip to inspect the final stages of construction and to prepare for the dedication of the orphanage in April. He will share with us his story of a truly "service above self," life changing experience and introduce us to "his children."

**Host/Introducer:** Jim Cook

**Song Leader:** Shelley MacMillan

**Accompanist:** Joan Knoertzer

## Looking Ahead

**February 8** (Wednesday) – Erica Gwynn, Outbound Ambassadorial Scholar 2006-2007, will present "Links between Aquatic Ecosystems and Human Health"

**February 15** (Wednesday) – Jim Duderstadt, U-M President Emeritus, will describe "A Road Map to Michigan's Future: Meeting the Challenge of a Global Knowledge-driven Economy"

**February 17** (Friday) – This day is the deadline for submission of nomination forms for the next class of new members. Contact John Eman if you have any questions.

**February 22** (Wednesday) - James R. Irwin, Chairman and CEO, Wolverine Technical Staffing, will reveal "The University of Michigan's Top 20 Athletes of the 20th Century"

Note: If you want any details on the above meetings, you can refer to the "Coming Attractions" sheet passed out at the meeting of January 25 or go on-line to our website at <http://www.annarborrotary.org>. Click on the Events Calendar at the top of the page.

**February 23** (Thursday) – Rotary's 101<sup>st</sup> Birthday Celebration. See article below.

## News from the Meeting of January 25

The tax statement for 2005 is out and in the mail. Contact John White if you haven't received one or if you have questions.

We received a nice letter of thanks from Ken Westerman of Pioneer High School choirs. The club honored him as a Paul Harris Fellow last December and Ken wanted to show his official thanks.

## Notes from the Program of January 25



Susan  
Lackey

Flip Connell introduced Susan Lackey, executive director of Washtenaw Land Trust, who spoke on “The Importance of Sense of Place.” She showed some beautiful slides of Washtenaw County farms, fields and streams as depicting our “sense of place.” Our rivers, the Saline, Raisin and Huron also provide a sense of place. People give up rights to their land to give to the Land Trust. “We work with landowners who want to insure permanent stewardship of the land,” she said. The land stays in private ownership and still generates taxes.

“We enter into an agreement with private landowners called a conservation easement,” Susan said. “The farmland or wetland or whatever strip is kept intact in perpetuity. The landowner gets the value of a charitable contribution in exchange.”

The Land Trust isn’t funded by tax dollars. The opposite of change is stagnation and regression. “We’re not opposed to change,” Susan said. “We work to protect habitat. The lands we protect are lands you see every day, unlike Seney wildlife refuge or Lake Michigan dunes.” She said there are 10 percent more farms in Washtenaw County today than in 1997.

She said we all have a special attachment to the land. “We can all own land – a radical concept 250-some years ago,” she said. It’s an investment and a factory for growing our crops. “We need to save a legacy in Washtenaw County of “a sense of place.”

In response to questions, Susan said we have many “niche” farmers in Washtenaw County, growing specialty crops or raising llamas. “We differ from the Nature Conservancy in that they work globally. They work in areas of extraordinarily unique habitat.”

The Washtenaw Land Trust operates on a budget of \$300,000 a year. It has a thousand members and is linked with the Land Trust Alliance. The WLT in an average year protects 200-300 acres. Working with private, individual landowners, the WLT has completed 36 projects directly protecting 1,700 acres. The Washtenaw Land Trust is the first land trust in Michigan. You can learn more about it from their website at <http://www.washtenawlandtrust.org/>.

The News and Notes were prepared by Don Faber, Harpoon Editor. Fred Beutler provided the photos.

**Meeting Statistics:** Our reported attendance at this day’s meeting included 141 members, four visiting Rotarians and 14 guests. Before lunch, a total of 24 members participated in meetings of the Rotaract, STRIVE, Golf and Jr. Rotarian Committees.

### Other Notes of Interest

**Birthdays:** January 30 – Ingrid Sheldon, February 2 – Adam Kozma, February 4 – Nishta Bhatia and Dewey Noland.

**Make-up Cards:** Steve Oldstrom (North Greenville SC on 1/13 and 1/20) and Vic Rosenberg (Houston-Galleria TX)

**Visiting Rotarians:** We were joined by Smrithi Srinivasan, president of the U-M Rotaract Club. We also hosted three visiting Rotarians; Scott Jagger of the Bozeman Sunrise Club in MT, Betsy Hammond of Lakeshore Club in St. Joseph and Kasee Feit of the Blissfield Club. Betsy is an occasional visitor and Kasee now works for National City Bank in Ann Arbor.

**Rotate Your Food 2006:** Last year our Rotary Club gathered more than two tons of food during our first community service project collecting non-perishable food for our county’s food rescue/food bank program – Food Gatherers. Following this successful drive, our club agreed to support this project again in 2006. Although winter winds send chills through us right now, the time has come to begin thinking about warm weather and planning for our next food drive. This means pulling together a committee of enthusiastic and committed Rotarians to help Committee Chair, Chris McMullen, begin to plant the seeds for this year’s effort. If you are interested in joining the food drive committee or learning more about this community service project that helps fight hunger locally, please call Chris at 734-761-2796 or e-mail her at [chris@foodgatherers.org](mailto:chris@foodgatherers.org). She will also have committee sign-up sheets available at this week’s Rotary Club meeting.



Nancy Brockbank

**“Get to Know your Local Non-profits:”** As part of the latest edition is this series, Verna McDaniel introduced Nancy Brockbank, Executive Director of the Ann Arbor Academy. The Academy’s goal is to educate children with learning difficulties, such as ADD and dyslexia. Nancy said the Academy sees kids “who are beaten up psychologically” but all of whom “are capable of learning.” The website for the academy is <http://www.annarboracademy.org/>.

**Rotary Birthday 101:** The Rotarians in Sector 9 of District 6380 (we are in Sector 6) had so much fun at last year’s centennial celebration that are hosting a 101<sup>st</sup> birthday bash on Thursday, February 23. All Rotarians and guests are welcome. The event will be held at Zuccaro’s Holiday House in Mt. Clemens. Here is the link to the invitation:

<http://www.clubrunner.ca/Data/6380/NewsBulletin/433/Rotary101stYearBirthdayCelebration.pdf>.



**Rotaract Bowl-a-thon:** The event on Saturday, January 21 drew a total of 34 bowlers (half Rotarians and half Rotaractors) plus a handful of non-bowling cheerleaders and well-wishers. Here is a photo of some Rotaractors.

**John Rasmussen off to Brazil:** John and six other Rotarians, including members from Ann Arbor North and Ypsilanti clubs will be going Santarem, Para, Brazil from January 30 through February 11. They expect to help build a community center for children at risk. It is his second volunteer trip to Brazil. John is still looking for hosts for the new incoming

Ambassadorial Scholar as he mentioned at the meeting on January 25. Bill Dunifon will be backing up John during his absence. You may contact Bill at 734-429-3626 or [bdunifon@aol.com](mailto:bdunifon@aol.com).

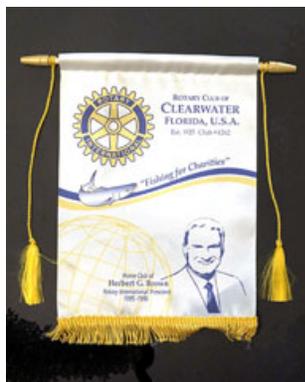


**Huron Interact Club Awards Pins to Members:** Following is an article from Huiting Liu, Club President on how they have decided to qualify students as members.

“The Huron Interact Club recently developed a way of distributing membership pins. Any member of the club who has completed at least five activities or volunteered for a minimum of 15 hours will automatically receive an Interact pin at the next mass meeting. New or existing members are encouraged to sign up to participate in more activities in the future to reach the basic requirement. The Interact board, upon first receiving the pins

from Rotary, decided on this eligibility policy based on fairness and practicality. It was agreed that the pins would be a great way of demonstrating our enthusiasm in our club and the work that we do. Additionally, it may attract more attention to future projects. So far, the policy is smoothly in effect. There has been a very positive response to these pins, and we have requested an additional 20 pins to accommodate all of our members. As second semester begins, Huron Interact is working on creating more diverse projects, as well as a fundraiser sponsored by local Applebee's coming up in March. We hope to have more updates to Rotary in the upcoming weeks.”

**Flags:** Pictured below are the banners brought to our club by traveling members. The three on the left are from Joan Knoertzer’s trip to Florida in December. The one on the right resulted from Bernie Galler’s visit to Sutton’s Bay. Thanks to Fred Beutler for his photographs.



“Service above Self”