

**Rotary Club of Ann Arbor for 2006-2007**

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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.  
Copies of recent editions are available as .pdf files at <http://annarborrotary.org/harpoon.htm>

## The Program for September 6, 2006

**Speaker:** Kenneth C. Fischer, President, University Musical Society

**Topic:** "UMS's 2006-07 Season....and the Return of the Royal Shakespeare Company"

Fellow Rotarian Ken Fischer will highlight the performances, educational programs, and special events that make up the upcoming 128th season of UMS, the oldest university-related performing arts presenting organization in the U.S. and one of the most distinguished. He will give special focus to the third residency of the Royal Shakespeare Company, returning to Ann Arbor for a U.S. exclusive set of presentations of Shakespeare's "Tempest," "Julius Caesar," and "Anthony & Cleopatra." Famed stage, film, and TV actor Patrick Stewart will lead a stellar company of 60 actors and crew members who will make Ann Arbor their home between October 24 and November 12. You'll get all the information plus the inside story on why it's Ann Arbor that gets the only U.S. visit by the RSC during their extraordinary Complete Works Festival Year.

**Host/Introducer:** Prue Rosenthal

**Song Leader:** Henry Johnson

**Accompanist:** Joan Knoertzer

**Committee Meeting:** The Directory Committee will meet at 11:00 in the Anderson Room. All interested Rotarians are welcome to participate.

## Looking Ahead



**September 11** (Monday) – "The Rotary Invitational." Our fourth Annual Golf Outing will be held at Travis Pointe Country Club. Also planned are activities for tennis players. The dinner portion of the event begins at 5:00 with a social hour and will take the place of the regular luncheon meeting scheduled for Wednesday. Opportunities to bid on the auction items will be available at the meeting of September 6. Can't attend the outing or the dinner/auction? No problem! A catalog is available at <http://annarborrotary.org/archives/GolfOutingAuctionCatalog2006.pdf>. Forms for absentee bidding are on-line at <http://annarborrotary.org/archives/PrebidForm2006TwoUp.pdf>. Finally, a link to the flyer for the event is at <http://annarborrotary.org/golfbrochure2006.pdf>.

**September 13** (Wednesday) – No regular luncheon meeting! See the Golf Outing article above.

**September 20** (Wednesday) - Eileen Kawola, Retired Social Studies Teacher, Member, Children Affected by HIV-AIDS (CHABHA) will present, "A Tragic Toll on Children: AIDS Orphans In Rwanda"

**September 27** (Wednesday) - Don Scavia, Professor and Associate Dean, Director, Michigan Sea Grant, Interim Director, CILER, School of Natural Resources & Environment will speak on, "Threats to the Great Lakes Ecosystem and Fish

## Populations"

Note: Details on all the programs for September are on the website at <http://annarborrotary.org/september.htm>. Paper copies will be available on the attendance table at the weekly meetings.

## News from the Meeting of August 30

Joanne Pierson led us in the invocation in sign language, a first for our club.



Joan Knoertzer and Deanna Relyea, Rotary Singers

Next, Song Leader Jim Irwin commented that the speaker's topic, Teaching in Prison, is considered continuing education at MSU. Admission to Vanderbilt University (Saturday's football opponent) requires a valid high school diploma or a Master's degree from OSU. Either is acceptable.

President Ingrid announced the Kerrytown benefit concert with Maurita Holland and Roger Chard on September 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. Our Deanna Relyea annually organizes this outstanding evening.

Jim Cook reminded everyone about the exciting plans for the September 11<sup>th</sup> Golf Outing and Dinner. The event will take the place of the September 13<sup>th</sup> luncheon meeting. Bank of Ann Arbor is again a major financial donor to the event. We are told that the auction has really big and exciting items and will be described in the Harpoon in advance so we will have time to plan our bids. Note: See the "Looking Ahead" section above for links to auction information.



Jalle Dafa

Bob Buchanan announced that the District is seeking applicants for the Group Study Exchange team visit to Thailand February 21<sup>st</sup> to March 20<sup>th</sup> next year. Team members are young professionals, age 25 – 40 but not Rotarians. This outbound team does not have a specialty so is open to any profession. Phil Alexander or Bob can provide more information beyond the announcement that can be found on the District 6380 website at <http://rotary6380.org/>

Jalle Dafa, a student in international affairs, received a UNESCO internship appointment to Ecuador last summer but it was not funded. Our Club provided financial support. Jalle described her experiences in Quito, Ecuador working in the USESCO communications section with a special interest in radio programming. President Ingrid commented that this plus the GSE program illustrate our strong Rotary commitment to global affairs.

Thanks to Mel Drumm for producing last week's Harpoon.

## Notes from the Program of August 30

Burt Voss introduced Elsa Stuber, a teacher who has taught in Milan Federal Prison since 1978; Teaching in Prisons.



Elsa Stuber

Milan is the only prison in the federal system that offers programs leading to a high school diploma, sponsored by the Milan School District. Inmates from other prisons have often asked to be transferred to Milan to take advantage of this program. About 1,000 inmates have received their high school diploma through this program. 3,000 have learned to read. Graduation is conducted in the prison in which each graduate wears an academic gown.

The problem is that two million people (out of a total U.S. population of 300 million) are in prison, 42,000 are in Michigan prisons. The annual cost per inmate is \$28,000 – 40,000. The prison population is 55-60% Black, mostly inner city. Some can very intelligent but are third grade drop-outs, some have spent their lives living in no more than a car. No job + no skill + unstable home = crime and incarceration. Doing time can be a badge of honor among the Black population.

Elsa wears a belt with an alarm but has used it only twice because of a fight between two prisoners. Otherwise, she reported that she feels safe in the prison environment. Her prison experience has been a lesson in pain, courage, hopelessness, humanity, listening. She shared a few anecdotes.

- Elsa taught “Mr. Vitale” how to use a calculator. He sat quietly entering numbers but suddenly jumped up and run to a pay phone. Seems he discovered his accountant was cheating him.
- Elsa introduced essay writing with “How not to rob a bank.” The class decided that the most important person was the driver of the get-away car. Suddenly one inmate violently hit another. Seems he was the driver of the get-away car.

Finally, on release they have 22 days to find a job; otherwise back to prison. This means that the high school diploma is their route to the outside world as useful citizens again.

President Ingrid’s “Thought for the Day” was from William Yeats (1865-1939), “Education is not the filling of a pail but the lighting of a fire.

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

**Meeting Statistics:** Our reported attendance at this day’s meeting was 105 members. Hopefully, no one that was planning to attend was sidetracked by the congestion and confusion of the annual student move-in process. We also had one guest but no visiting Rotarians. The Golf Committee met before the luncheon. A total of 18 members participated.

## Other Notes of Interest

**Birthdays:** September 3 – Robbie O’Brien and Bryan Schindel; September 5 – Cheryl Elliott and Bob Pratt; September 6 – Jim Frenza; September 8 – Bob Buchanan, Lois Jelneck and Gerry Stair

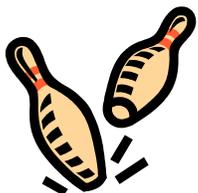
**Make-up Cards from Roving Rotarians:** Maurita Holland (Manistique on August 21); Frode Maaseidvaag (Hart on August 2); Nels Olson (Frankfort on August 23) and Jack Walker (Damariscotta Newcastle ME on August 22).

**Visiting Rotarians:** None this week.

**District Attendance Report:** For the month of August, we reported attendance of 51% for the five meetings. We started August with 308 members and finished with 305 after the resignations of Lloyd Bastian, Joe Edwards and Don Robinson.

**Five Star Attendees for August:** Despite the generally higher level of absences due to the traditional vacation season, a total of 20 faithful members attended each of the five meetings in August. They are: Phil Alexander, Elaine Alexander, Henry Amble, Al Burdi, Chuck Cares, Lee Danielson, Barbara Debrodt, Dave Felbeck, Beth Fitzsimmons, Doug Freeth, Dave Gunderson, Walt Hancock, Downs Herold, Dave Keosaian, Joan Knoertzer, Mike Marich, Pat Pooley, Ingrid Sheldon, Len Stenger and Dave Williams.

**Rotarians in the News:** Cheryl Elliott provided the Guest Opinion piece in the Ann Arbor Business Review for the edition of August 31 – September 6. Her topic was the new Pension Protection Act of 2006 and its positive impact on charitable giving.



**Rotary Bowling News:** History being made this week. About 67 years ago, the Rotary Club of Ann Arbor Rotary, along with several other service clubs, established a bowling league. It was called the Ann Arbor Service Club League. Every year since, your club has been represented by a five man team although, in several instances, non-Rotarians were used to achieve a full roster. The league resumes this week and, for the first time ever, we will have two teams in the league. In addition, we will have the first woman Rotarian bowling. Barbara Debrodt will be making history by bowling with the Blue team on Sept. 21. Members of the Blue Team are Dick Elwell, Peter Wright, Russ Reister, Al Burdi and Greg Cook.

Members of the Gold Team are Chuck Olson, Bob Dascola, Dan Romanchik, Paul Glendon and Wayne Colquitt. The following persons will be bowling on either team as substitutes are needed: Brooks Sitterley, Bill Stegath, Lou Callaway, John White, Barbara Debrodt and Norman Herbert. We invite all Rotarians to come to Colonial Lanes on Thursday evenings to support your teams.

**Youth Exchange Programs for Next Year** [excerpt from a memo by PDG Bob Baker]: The District Youth Exchange committee is preparing for selection interviews for the outbound students for the academic year 2007-08 as well as the Summer Term Students for the summer of 2007. We need your help in identifying these students and helping them complete

their applications which must be submitted by October 15. Please make any contacts you have with school or youth groups NOW to identify students who may be interested in the program and help them with their applications. Thanks for your help. Note: General information on Youth Exchange is on the RI website at [http://www.rotary.org/programs/youth\\_ex/index.html](http://www.rotary.org/programs/youth_ex/index.html). Bob Baker's email address is [robert002@ameritech.net](mailto:robert002@ameritech.net). Details on this program are available at [www.ohioerie.org](http://www.ohioerie.org) or see John White for a printed brochure.



**Rotary Travel Opportunity** [from Phil Alexander]: Nigerian Rotarians are requesting a 16 member volunteer team to assist and work with local Rotarians on a nationwide National Immunization Day (NID). Preliminary plans call for departure on December 4, 2006 and return December 13, 2006. The team would be divided into three work groups in three areas of southern Nigeria. The cost is very preliminary but is estimated to be \$2,750 (per person, double occupancy). If you are interested, contact Phil Alexander, District Friendship Exchange Chair, for more information.

**Links of Interest:** Below is a short list of links to various websites that will be of interest to Rotarians.

• **Rotary International:** <http://rotary.org/>. The RI home page has links to About Rotary, The Rotary Foundation, Club Locator and Member Access.

• **District 6380:** <http://rotary6380.org/>. This is the website for our district (covering a total of 50 clubs in the counties of Washtenaw, Livingston, Oakland, Macomb and Kent (in Ontario). The district's monthly newsletter is also posted here. A recent posting is the notice of a one-month Group Study Exchange to Thailand during February and March of 2007. Applications are due by September 22. Details on the trip to India for the NID are in the July newsletter posted there.

• **Rotary Club of Ann Arbor:** <http://annarborrotary.org/>. This is our Club's own website. It contains a great deal of background material and current information.

**“Lead the Way”**