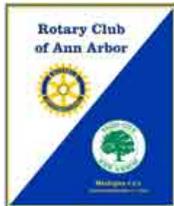


Harpoon for the Meeting of April 25, 2007

Note to email subscribers: If this newsletter does not display properly or you wish to print a copy, the .pdf (Adobe Acrobat) version is available on the Club website at <http://annarborrotary.org/harpoon.shtml>. Past copies are also available on-line.



**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.shtml>*

## The Program for Wednesday, April 25, 2007

**Speakers:** Members of the Group Study Exchange Team from Thailand

**Topic:** News from Thailand . . . Adventures in Michigan & Ontario

OK, Rotarians . . . write these names down and practice pronouncing them so that you can join comfortably in a rousing Rotary welcome to the Inbound Group Study Exchange Team consisting of: Rotarian Team Leader Tanit Tantivit, a hotelier from Phuket; Ms. Nawarat Bardhumasuta, an artist; Ms. Kuwladdee Kulsrisombat, a dentist; Mr. Boontawee Boonhai, a teacher; and Ms. Jariyaporn Jareonroop, a pharmacist. This group of bright young professionals will be in our District for a month and with we will host them for several days this week. They will discuss their lives, professions, Thai culture and their experiences in District 6380.

**Hosts/Introducers:** Spaulding Clark & Bill Dunifon **Song Leader:** Russ Collins **Accompanist:** Joan Knoertzer

## Looking Ahead

**April 24** (Tuesday evening) – Margaret and Bill Dunifon are hosting a welcoming party for the visiting GSE team. Contact them at (734) 429-3626 or [bdunifon@aol.com](mailto:bdunifon@aol.com) if you would like to attend

**April 25** (Wednesday noon) – We will hear from the GSE team from Thailand (details above).

**April 28** (Saturday morning) – Tree planting at Leslie Park. Sign up at an upcoming meeting or contact Terry Linden at (734) 662-7559 or [rtryterry@empireofideas.us](mailto:rtryterry@empireofideas.us).

**April 27-29** (Friday through Sunday) - District 6380 Conference at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing. Register on-line at <http://rotary6380.org/>.

**May 2** (Wednesday noon) – Regular weekly luncheon meeting with Judge Julie Creal speaking.

**May 4** (Friday evening) – Our annual Spring Fling at Barton Hills. Register by April 30. Pick up a form at a luncheon meeting or download one from the website at <http://annarborrotary.org/RotarySpringFlingFlyer2007.pdf>. Sponsors of new members should bring the new member to this festive event.

## News from the Meeting of April 18, 2007

We observed a moment of silence for member Buz Hoff, who lost a battle against leukemia. Update: A memorial service is scheduled for 4:00 on Saturday, May 19 at the First Presbyterian Church. Here is a link to his obituary: <http://obits.mlive.com/AnnArbor/DeathNotices.asp?Page=Lifestory&PersonId=87464915>.

On our way in, we signed a card for Bob Warner, who is at Arbor Hospice. Let's keep Bob in our thoughts and prayers.

Four Interactors from Pioneer High were given a warm welcome, as were our three Junior Rotarians from Huron High: Kandace Powell, Khalid Raof and Steve Sun.

The board met Wednesday and announced a club membership of 315 and a sum of \$1.36 million in the endowment fund.

The tree planting April 28 at Leslie Park still needs more planters, according to tree guru Ian Glassford. The digs begin at 8 a.m.

You only have two more weeks to sign up for Spring Fling May 4, the final event of the year on our social calendar.

Thanks to all who replied to the survey and made Sam Offen's job easier.



Len Stenger in his returned coat.

A show of hands confirmed that about 16 Rotarians will attend the Group Study Exchange reception at Bill Dunifon's house on April 24.

Thought for the day, from former UCLA basketball coach John Wooden: "Don't measure yourself by what you have accomplished, but by what you should have accomplished with your ability."

**Special News Flash.** Overcoat found! Thanks to all the attentive and conscientious Harpoon readers who checked their closets for Len Stenger's coat. Restoration of the two coats to their proper owners was made at the meeting. Len is very happy to have his coat back. Let's hope he doesn't need to wear it again for at least five or six months.

## Notes from the Program of April 18, 2007



Jerry Gray

Bob Buchanan introduced Dr. Jerry Gray, who with his wife, Mary Kay, volunteers with World Medical Mission, a ministry of Samaritan Purse, run by Franklin Graham. Jerry and Mary Kay served for six weeks in Kenya last fall. "We've done this every year for the last six years," Jerry said.

The mission station where Jerry was posted is in Kijabe. There, Jerry serves as a medical missionary treating patients and proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ to natives. Among the diseases he treats are hydrocephalus, noma (a cancer of extreme poverty), burn victims, infections, tuberculosis and AIDS. Jerry showed slides of the patients he treats and the cures, if possible, that he recommends.

In Uganda, Jerry said, AIDS incidence is falling, unlike other countries in Africa. He noted the benefits to volunteers at the mission that they grew spiritually, were unplugged in the western sense (no TV, no cell phones)

and a decline in body weight. "We have the satisfaction of giving and learning about different cultures," he said. "The Kenyan people are just marvelous people, we learn as much from them as they do about us," Jerry said.

He said a pathology specimen cost only \$7 in Kenya, whereas in Ann Arbor a path specimen would cost anywhere from \$270 to \$623. Jerry's superb medical work is complemented by his witness for Christianity. He showed one picture of a Masai group meeting for church under a tree – they didn't have a building.

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

**Meeting Statistics:** Our reported attendance at this day's meeting was 143 members. We also had nine guests (including the three Junior Rotarians), one visiting Rotarian (Ted Lands of Ocean City NJ) and four Interactors from Pioneer High (Ignatius Chen, Jessica Chang, Grace Duan and LiAne Racelis). Prior to the luncheon, a total of 32 members met in three committee meetings (Rotate Your Food, Program Committee and International Outreach. Earlier in the day, the Board of Directors met. Fifteen members participated.

## Other Notes of Interest

**Birthdays:** April 22 – Mark Ouimet; April 23 – Larry Hastie; April 24 – John Debbink; April 26 – Bruce Benner; April 28 – Dave McDowell.

**Make-up Cards from Roving Rotarians:** None this week.



Eric Pless  
sporting his Red  
Wings cast

**Rotarians in the News:** We recently heard from Eric Pless. Eric has been on a leave of absence from the club since being called up for active duty in the National Guard. In early March, he was in training at Ft. Riley KS preparing for deployment to Afghanistan when he suffered serious fractures to his left ankle and leg. After surgery to install some plates and pins, he was equipped with an air cast which he expects to have for four months. Eric reports that he is in good spirits and is hoping that his recovery will be complete enough to allow him to continue his military career. The club extends its best wishes to Eric for a speedy and complete recovery.

**Rotary Friendship Exchange** [a report from John Rasmussen]: What began as a Rotary Friendship Exchange became a cultural experience with visits to the Manaus Opera House, an elementary school English class and a guided tour to Henry Ford's Rubber plantation and the American village at Belterra.

Rotary Communication Grant sites in Santarem included IESPES University and Library. Here I met with the English professor who has 400 students and up to 80 students in a class. With few books available the proposed internet grant will provide students access beyond limited library and university lab hours.

Visits to a local elementary school English Class and two community center sites gave me an opportunity to ask children, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" The children replied, "teacher, nurse, sailor and soccer player" The students had few books and the community centers both needed new roofs.

Rotary meetings in Obidos Mar. 22 and Santarem, Brazil March 28 brought out generous support by Rotarians and guided tours of hospital sites. Heraldo Bentes de Souza traveled overnight on the Amazon ferry to Obidos. The Obidos Rotary Club has their own building named "Amizade Casa" (friendship house) located 200 miles up the Amazon from Santarem.

Santarem Centennial University Rotary Club meets in a hotel overlooking the Tapajos and Amazon rivers in downtown Santarem. Rotary Clubs, volunteers and grants are helping local NGO's to improve health care and education in the Amazon region of Brazil. There are 27 villages of African descendants, 115 villages of Mundurucu Indians and descendants of US Confederate families living in the region. It's hard to believe the Amazon River is only 5 hours from Miami.

**Rotarian Magazine Needed** [a request from John White]: My April issue did not arrive and I would like to get one to ensure the Club's collection is complete. If you are finished with your copy and have not passed it along to a potential member or dropped it off at your dentist's office, please bring it to an upcoming meeting and leave it at the attendance table or the "secretary's windowsill." Thanks.

**Links of Interest:** Below is a 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. Registration information for the Annual Convention in Salt Lake City from June 17-29 is also on-line at: <http://rotary.org/events/conventions/2007/index.html>.
- **Zone 28:** <http://www.zones27-28.org/>. The zone level is between RI and the district. We are part of a zone with 15 districts covering the lower peninsula of Michigan, the upper parts of Indiana and Ohio and even a bit of Pennsylvania and New York.
- **District 6380:** <http://rotary6380.org/>. This is the website for our district. District 6380 covers a total of 50 clubs in the counties of Washtenaw, Livingston, Oakland, Macomb in Michigan and Kent in Ontario. The district's monthly newsletter, as well as individual articles of district-wide interest, are also posted here. The latest postings, 2007 RYLA Registration Forms, the March District Newsletter and on-line registration for the District Conference which will be held in East Lansing from April 27-29.
- **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 such as the Club brochure, the current Annual Report, New Member Nomination Form, Committee Descriptions, synopses of upcoming programs and an archive of current and past Harpoons. Our club also sponsors the following Rotaract and Interact Clubs:
- **U-M Rotaract Club:** <http://www.umich.edu/~rotaract/>
- **Huron High Interact Club:** <http://www.aaps.k12.mi.us/huron.interact/home>
- **Pioneer High Interact Club:** <http://www.pioneerinteract.blogspot.com/>

**“Lead the Way”**