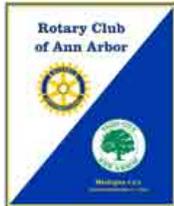


Harpoon for the Meeting of March 26, 2008

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



Rotary Club of Ann Arbor for 2007-2008

Alphonse R. Burdi, President
James W. Cook, VP and President Elect
J. Downs Herold, Secretary
John G. Ackenhusen, Club Treasurer
David J. Keosaian, Endowment Treasurer
Ingrid B. Sheldon, Past President
David B. Williams, Sergeant at Arms

Louis M. Callaway, Jr., Director [2008]
Wayne N. Colquitt, Director [2009]
Barbara J. Debrodt, Director [2008]
Maurita P. Holland, Director [2009]
Josie B. Parker, Director [2009]
Peter S. Wright, Director [2008]
John T. White III, Club Administrator
Donald J. Faber, Harpoon Editor

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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>

Sad News: Carl Gingles, a Rotarian since 1968 and our president in 1980-1981, passed away on Friday, March 21. Tentative plans are for a service this Wednesday. An obituary should appear soon in the Ann Arbor News.

March is "Literacy Month" on the Rotary calendar.

The Program for Wednesday, March 26, 2008

Speaker: Ron Shapiro, Sports Agent, Lawyer & Negotiator Extraordinaire
Topic: "Dare to Prepare" - How to Win (in negotiations) Before You Begin.

More than thirty years ago Ron Shapiro founded a sports management firm that soon developed a national reputation through a "holistic" win-win approach to contract negotiation and represented Hall of Fame athletes such as Cal Ripken, Jr. and Brooks Robinson. He has written best-selling books on negotiation strategies, the latest being "Dare to Prepare: How to Win Before You Begin." His Negotiations Institute has trained over 350,000 people. His half-hour Rotary talk may not leave us fully trained, but we'll know the general principles and will have heard an entertaining account of an important subject and an interesting career.

Host/introducer: Ken Fischer

Song Leader: Don Devine

Accompanist: Tom Strode

Looking Ahead

Full descriptions of the luncheon programs for March are on-line at: <http://annarborrotary.org/march.shtml>.

March 28 (Friday) - Community Services Grant Applications are due. The package is on-line from the home page of the Club website at <http://www.annarborrotary.org/>. The theme is "Helping Kids Succeed."

March 30 (Sunday at 7:00pm) - The U-M Rotaract Club's Filipino Benefit Night. Rotarians and guests are welcome. For details, go to <http://uofmrotaract.wordpress.com/>.

April 2 (Wednesday at noon) - We will hear from three Ambassadorial Scholars about their experiences.

April 9 (Wednesday at noon) - Our speaker will be Kevin Borseth, U-M Women's Basketball Coach.

April 12 (Saturday) - District 6380 Assembly at Walsh College in Troy. This event is required for club presidents and presidents-elects and is open to other club officers and interested Rotarians. Details and registration

information are on the district website at <http://www.rotary6380.org/>. President Al has talked about car pooling so please contact him if you are planning to attend.

April 16 (Wednesday at noon) – The Group Study Exchange Team from Turkey will be here.

April 23 (Wednesday at noon) – Marvin Pettway of U-M will present, “Tree Campus within a Tree City”

April 25-27 (Friday through Sunday) – Rotary World Peace Summit in Windsor, Ontario. For details and registration information, go to <http://www.rotarypeacesummit.org/>.

April 26 (Saturday morning) – Tree planting. Details shortly.

April 27 (Sunday at 4:00) – U-M Senior Student Showcase at Mendelssohn Theater. The Social Committee has reserved space for club members and their guests. Tickets are \$17 each. Susan Smith Gray will be hosting light refreshments afterwards. Contact Shelley MacMillan at shelleymacmillan@mac.com to make your reservations.

April 30 (Wednesday at noon) – President-elect Jim Cook will lead us in a discussion of our Strategic Plan

Program details for the April luncheon meetings are on-line at: <http://annarborrotary.org/april.shtml>.

News from the Meeting of March 19, 2008

In honor of our speaker, Larry Hastie added the doggerel “Don’t tax him, don’t tax me/tax that man behind the tree” to his invocation.

Shelley McMillan gave us an early heads up to a social event, the U-M senior student showcase on April 27 at the Mendelssohn Theatre in the Michigan League at 4:00pm. Note: see the “Looking Ahead” section above for details.

Griff McDonald is doing well after bypass surgery.



Andrea Bernardini, Fiona Greenland and Kirk Williams

Scott Westerman said we need more candidates to submit applications for the Rotary International Scholar Program. Only two candidates have applied to date.

Agnes Reading and their sponsors introduced three additional members of the most recent new member class. They include Andrea Bernardini, Fiona Greenland and Kirk Williams. The final two new members, Ruth Knoll and Joe Marr, are scheduled to be introduced on April 9.

Notes from the Meeting of March 19, 2008



Bob Mull

Joel Berger introduced fellow Rotarian Bob Mull on the topic “The Taxpayer Advocacy Panel – Your Voice for a Better IRS.” The TAP is composed of volunteers, about one-third of whom are tax experts, who listen to taxpayer complaints and make suggestions for improving IRS services. A TAP volunteer goes through a rigorous round of interviews and must obtain FBI clearance. TAPers serve a three-year term and each panel member serves on an area and an issues committee. Bob said TAP tries to simplify things for taxpayers and help older Americans to understand the tax code. Among the group’s recommendations are to require licensing of paid tax preparers and to abandon plans to outsource the collection of taxpayer debt. Bob jokingly said “income tax forms have been simplified beyond all understanding.” To get in touch with TAP, call 1-888-912-1227.

President Al’s Thought for the Day comes from humorist Art Buchwald: “Wealth...even if you could take it with you, I am sure the IRS would figure out a way to come and get it.”

The News and Notes were compiled and reported by Don Faber, Harpoon editor. Fred Beutler provided the photographs.

Meeting Statistics: Our reported attendance at today’s luncheon meeting was 141 members. We had no visiting Rotarians and only one guest. Perhaps they were all home working on their taxes. A total of 32 members attended

three committee meetings (International Outreach, Program and Rotate your Food) just before lunch. A total of seven members participated in a “make-up” new member orientation and 16 members met earlier in the day at the Board of Directors meeting.

Other Notes of Interest



Birthdays: March 23 – Herb Ellis; March 24 – Bob Hatcher; March 25 – Susan Smith Gray; **March 26 – Roger Fraser;** March 27 – David Sarns; March 28 – Howard Dubin and Doug Moffatt; March 29 – David Behen and Dave Gunderson.



Make-up Cards and Reports from Roving Rotarians: Barbara Bryant (Scottsdale AZ on March 10); Doug Moffatt (Northville on March 4) and Steve Oldstrom (Mt. Pleasant East Cooper Breakfast, SC on March 18). Steve reports that he heard an interesting talk by a group of heart specialists who traveled to Hanoi to operate on tiny children with various heart defects. The club partially funded the group’s work.



Report from the Board [submitted by Secretary Downs Herold]: At the meeting of the Board of Directors on March 19 it was reported that Club membership at the end of February was 306. This is an increase of three over the 303 active members on record in February of 2007. A letter of resignation was accepted from Bob Chapman (business pressure). The Operating Fund cash on hand totaled \$49,964. The Endowment market value at the end of February was \$1,308,280 reflecting recent market turbulence. Budget variances were approved to increase funding for the

Tree Replacement and Planting Project to allow for a complete spring planting on Arbor Day, April 26 and an additional \$1000 was allocated to complete design and programming work needed to finish the new club website. A major portion of the meeting was devoted to a discussion of the Club’s revised Mission and Vision statements being drafted for the new (2008-2013) Strategic Plan. Board members are also working with their respective committees to prepare updated action plans for the Strategic Plans. The Board also received a report from an ad hoc committee formed to address occasions when meeting attendance has exceeded listed attendance limits.



Coffee Experiment Coming Up: The traditional coffee setup for our luncheon meetings has been to have decaf coffee at the beverage station and regular coffee on each of the tables. In order to better understand the demand for decaf vs. regular, we will be alternating carafes of each at the tables throughout the room. The containers with decaf will be marked with an orange tag on the handle. With this arrangement, either type of brew will be no farther away than the next table. Please give this experiment a try and let John White know if you have any observations or suggestions. 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, Member Access, the RI Annual Convention and the upcoming International Peace Forum in Windsor (on-line at <http://www.rotarypeacesummit.org/>).

- **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 53 clubs in the counties of Washtenaw, Livingston, Oakland and Macomb in Michigan and Kent in Ontario. The district’s monthly newsletter and other individual articles of district-wide interest are posted here.

- **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 our Club brochure, 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://uofmrotaract.wordpress.com/>

- **Huron High Interact Club:** <http://www.aaps.k12.mi.us/huron.interact/home>

- **Pioneer High Interact Club:** <http://www.pioneerinteract.blogspot.com/>

“Rotary Shares”