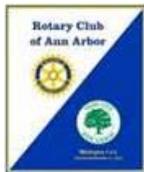


Harpoon for the Meeting of February 25, 2009

The .pdf (Adobe Acrobat) version posted on the Club website at <http://annarborrotary.org/harpoon.shtml>.
Submit news, committee meetings, and announcements to "a2harpoon@umich.edu"



Rotary Club of Ann Arbor 2008-2009

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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>*

February is World Understanding Month

IN THIS ISSUE:

Philippines Humanitarian Project Highlight

Thank you from Success by Six@

It's New Member Application Time!!!

Program for February 25, 2009

Speaker: Larry Whitworth, President, Washtenaw Community College

Topic: Preparing Students for a Changing World

It is fitting that WCC is positioned midway between the other two great institutions of higher learning in Washtenaw County, because it provides both excellent preparation for students who may continue their studies at U-M and EMU and a uniquely valuable middle-way educational option for career development, reorientation and lifelong learning for many others who may never attend a four-year college or already have undergraduate or advanced degrees. In these times of rapid, fundamental economic and technological change, community colleges in general and WCC in particular are more important than ever, and President Whitworth will update us on what WCC is doing to meet these challenges.

Host/introducer: Pam Horiszny **Song Leader:** Gloria Brooks **Accompanist:** Joan Knoertzer

Upcoming events

February 25: Committee Meetings at 11 a.m. in the Anderson Room

Rotate Your Food Committee: Paul Yhouse, pyhouse@umich.edu

Rotaract: Joanne Pierson, jpierson@umich.edu

March 4: Luncheon Speaker: Mary Sue Coleman, President, University of Michigan

March 8: Social Committee Event: Civic Theater's "Stage Door" at the Arthur Miller Theater; social time from 12:30-1:30 in the lobby (contact Susan Smith Gray; smithsms@umich.edu)

April 24: PolioPlus Benefit Concert: To raise funds for Rotary International's \$200 million Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation matching grant challenge, the eight Washtenaw County Rotary

Clubs are jointly sponsoring a benefit concert. Three Men and a Tenor will be performing at 7:30 pm in Skyline High's auditorium. This highly talented, energetic and entertaining Michigan-based quartet has performed over 1,000 concerts internationally in the past 17 years. Tickets will be \$50 (\$25 tax-deductible) for preferred seating and \$30 for general admission; they may be purchased through the club or by e-mail to Bob Comfort at bobcomfor@comcast.net

Notes from the Meeting of February 18

We've accepted three resignations, bringing our current membership to 309.

Don't forget March 1 is the deadline for new member class applications.

Dave Keren told us about the club's next major social event. That would be Civic Theatre's presentation of "Stage Door" March 8 with our own Pete Richards in the cast of players.



Our committee spotlight fell on a just-completed international humanitarian project on Cebu in the Philippines. John Drake, a Rotarian from Jackson, updated us on the Lingap Children's



Foundation, previously visited by Anne Glendon and Jim Cook in 2006.

Our club also supported the Rotary West Bay Community Library Project. We were thanked most eloquently by a young lady from the Islands, Joma Sepada, and by John Drake, who said "helping others is the greatest gift you can give to yourself."

Notes from the Program of February 18



Bob Mull introduced Peter Brown (*left*), associate publisher and editorial director of Automotive News, on "Why Detroit Will Never Be the Same." Peter said that even though the price of gas has dropped, things are even tougher for Detroit's Big Three auto companies. Of course, Toyota is losing money, too. Peter sketched how things got this bad (for one thing, health care liability for employers is extremely high) and criticized carcompany execs for being out of touch. As for fuel-economy standards, he said "it's crazy to have the States set their own standards." Peering into his crystal ball, Peter said, "This, too, will pass" and that the future is bright....for the survivors.

Notes by Don Faber, Harpoon editor; Photos by Fred Beutler

Thank you from Washtenaw Success by 6®

Sian Owen-Cruise, Director, reports that with help from Ann Arbor Rotary and other community partners, the program has a number of important activities underway. They include:

Children's Health Insurance Advocate Kelly Stupple's working with an increasing number of families to help ensure that children receive the health insurance coverage they deserve for a year. Demand for her services has increased dramatically in the past 3 months.

The Collaborative Head Start and Michigan School Readiness Program coordinated referral and enrollment program which supported enrollment in publicly funded preschools in all parts of the county. Fall applications exceeded the available spaces by almost 100 children, so children were left without a preschool experience; the organization expects to document the problem to the State and seek further support.

Child Care Provider Training for low-income providers has continued with the strong partnership of both Child Care Network and MSU Better Kids Care. This work will be expanded by the generous support of the Ann Arbor Area Community Fund, through the Pfizer Gift Grant Program.

The Parent Education and Support Network delivers developmentally appropriate parenting support information monthly throughout the county, and now has added a bimonthly newsletter. Materials are available in English, Spanish, and Arabic.

Community Collaboration continues forward through the Washtenaw Birth to Six Interagency Collaborative Council, the Washtenaw Literacy Coalition, the new parent coalition, and the State-wide Early Childhood Investment.

Owen-Cruise concludes that the contributions by the Rotary Club of Ann Arbor have been extremely important over the past six months to support the parent outreach and education efforts, help distribute information and support packets to over 1500 new parents at St. Joseph hospital, support outreach around developmental delay diagnosis and referral to physicians and childcare professionals throughout the county, and contribute to the growing strength of First Steps programs in all ten school districts. **Thank you for all of your help and support!**

February Board Meeting Report

At the meeting of the Board of Directors on February 18 at the Washtenaw United Way Building, the Club membership on January 31st was reported as 312. Eight members requested and were granted Active Exempt membership status. They are: Ken Fischer, Walt Hancock, Hal Flynn, Ray Hunter, Howard Cooper, Joe Fitzsimmons, Joh Kang and Joel Berger. Resignations were accepted with regret from Ray Fitzgerald, Doug Brouwer, Dewey Noland, and Fiona Greenland. The purchase of wireless microphones and a mixer for use at weekly meetings was approved. Funds were also allocated for contracting with a local website development company, Switchback, for the completion of the design of a new interactive website for the Club. This contact also includes the training of members who will then be able to effectively use the site for committee work and information sharing. The beneficiaries for the funds raised in this year's Golf/Tennis Outing were designated as the same as in 2008; Tree Replacement, Success by Six, and youth scholarships including STRIVE. A policy regarding members who are delinquent in dues payment was adopted to be effective July 1, 2009 and three existing club policies were reviewed as part of an ongoing preparation of a compilation of club Bylaws, policies and procedures.

Other Notes of Interest

Meeting Statistics: Attendance at the meeting of February 11 included 123 members. Also present were two visiting Rotarians (John Drake of Jackson and John Hammond of Lakeshore), a Rotaractor (Massy Matumba from the U-M Club) and eight guests. Just prior to the luncheon, a total of 53(!) members participated in meetings of six committees: Endowment Development,

Financial Strategies, Interact, International Outreach, Program, and Rotate Your Food. Earlier in the day, 14 members of the Board of Directors attended the monthly meeting. Also reported were two offsite meetings of the Website Committee.

Makeup Cards from Roving Rotarians: Barbara Bryant (Scottsdale AZ on February 9) and Bob Swistock (Northville on February 17).

Rotarian Magazines Needed, a request from John White: Nominations are due by March 1 (go to <http://annarborrotary.org/membership/index.php> for the on-line form) for the new members who will be inducted on March 25. As part of the introductory packet, I like to include a copy of the Rotarian magazine. If you have a recent one you can spare, please bring it to an upcoming meeting and give it to me or leave it at the attendance table or on the "Secretary's windowsill." Thanks!

Birthdays: Feb.24 – Bob Dascola; **Feb 25** – Steve Dobson; **Feb. 27**, Art Williams; **March 1**— Mary Steffek Blaske

The District 6380 Newsletter is now available at <http://www.rotary6380.org/> Highlights include District conference descriptions and online registration and updated links to local club events. Rotary International President-Elect John Kenny recently announced the theme and logo for Rotary year 2009-10.



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.

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 website with background material and current information including the current Annual Report, Strategic Plan, New Member Nomination Form, and Committee Descriptions, Club and Golf Outing brochures, synopses of upcoming programs and an archive of current and past Harpoons. Find our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=57896502278&ref=ts> 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/>

"Make Dreams Real"