



THE ITHACA ROTARY NEWS

November 26, 2003

The official bulletin of the Rotary Club of Ithaca, NY
Chartered in 1915 :: District 7170

Read this newsletter online with pictures and more at <http://www.ithacarotary.org>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **New Member Proposal**

The Ithaca Rotary Club Board of Directors will be considering the membership application(s) from the person(s) listed below. Any concerns about these membership proposals should be made in writing to the Secretary of the Club by December 10, 2003.

Name: Andrew Zepp

Position: Executive Director

Company: Finger Lakes Land Trust

Classification: Land Conservation

Sponsor: John Butler

- **Notes from President Jeff**

Special thanks this week to Mike Brown. Mike is the club's digital presentation guru, making sure that we have a computer projector available for speakers who need it, a computer too if necessary, and getting all the equipment set up and working properly at our meetings. For all of his hard work, Mike received a copy of this year's RI theme banner with this year's theme as his guide, "Lend A Hand." President Jeff also made a special presentation to Past President Jean McPheeters. As has been our tradition, President Jeff presented Jean with a bound copy of all of the Rotary newsletters from her year as president.

- **Two important meeting reminders!**

There will be no meeting on December 24, but there will be a meeting on December 31! Mark your calendars now so that you won't be there on the 24th and that you will be there on the 31st.

- **Youth Exchange Program**

Dave Flaccus announced that all five applicants for outgoing Youth Exchange Program positions as presented to the district by our club have been approved. Caitlin Costello will be going to Bolivia, Marian Ferguson to Finland, Adrian Claremont to France, and Benjamin Nicholas and Lauren Schwartz will be going to Mexico. We will be hearing more from these exceptional students soon.

- **Ithaca Rotary Spelling Bee Team**

Jim Fogel announced that the Ithaca Rotary spelling team did not win the annual IPEI Adult Spelling Bee, but the team did do very well in helping to raise money for IPEI. The money raised by this event is used to help teachers who have special program requests that are not funded through normal district sources. The requests are for small amounts, often books or supplies, and this year the spelling bee raised \$9,000.00. Congratulations to Jim, Mary Kane Trochim, and Kathleen O'Neil from the Sunrise club, and thanks for representing Rotary so well.

- **Share the Warmth**

The award-winning Share the Warmth Program is getting under way for this year. Dick Page and crew have already made arrangements for collection boxes to be placed at Borg-Warner, Center Ithaca, P&C Markets at East Hill and in Trumansburg, NYSEG (new this year), Pyramid Mall, Tops Market at Triphammer, Wegmans, and Shur-Save in Trumansburg as well as locations on the Ithaca College and Cornell University campuses. The Samaritan Center of Catholic Charities will oversee the distribution and the Southside Community Center has agreed to store the clothes and host the sorting and distribution. Trumansburg Rotary is joining us this year as a co-sponsor of this wonderful event and they are responsible for arranging the two Trumansburg collection sites.

The program will begin collecting clothes on November 19 and end December 7. Sorting will take place on December 11 and distribution will be on December 12 and 13. Of course, in order for this program to truly be successful, your participation is required. Sign-up sheets will be available at the meetings and you are encouraged to sign up to help empty the collection bins, sort the clothes, or staff the distribution tables. Without your help, this program would not be possible. If you have any questions, please contact Dick Page.

If you have signed up to pick up clothes from the collection boxes, Dick reminds you that he will be at the Southside Community Center daily from 4 - 6 p.m. to help you unload. For those of you who would like to participate in the Share the Warmth program in a different way, there will be a collection box outside the meeting room at the Holiday Inn next week. Please feel free to bring along any warm clothing that you may wish to contribute to the cause and your contribution will be happily added to the collections. Thank you for "Lending a Hand!"

ANNOUNCEMENTS <i>(continued)</i>

- **Ringin**

Once again the Ithaca Rotary Club will be ringin bells for the Salvation Army's annual kettle drive. Following are the dates and locations for our days, please check your calendars and be ready to sign up for a time slot when you are asked. Believe it or not, those dates will be here sooner than you think! Mark your calendars now so you have the time set aside.

INSIDE at KMart on Route 13 in Ithaca:

December 1: 9 am - 8 pm

December 16: 9 am - 9 pm

December 17 - The kettle will be at our meeting for members who would like to make a donation. **The Salvation Army Brass Band** will also be in attendance at the meeting. The 4-5 piece group will be playing until 12:30 for your entertainment. Come early and enjoy this special musical presentation.

- **Ithaca Rotary Community Grants**

Once again the Ithaca Rotary club will be presenting worthwhile organizations in the community with small grants to help them achieve their goals. Requests for Rotary Grants are now being accepted and any organization with a need can apply simply by making a request to the Community Grants Committee. A letter detailing the request should be sent to either President Jeff True or Secretary Scott Russell care of the Ithaca Rotary Club, P.O. Box 306, Ithaca, N.Y. 14851. Letters may also be addressed directly to the committee via chair Jessie Ripple, 57 Highgate Circle, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850 If you have any questions about the Small Grants Program you may also call Jessie at 257-6454 or 254-2372. Deadline for requests will be January 31, 2004.

- **Sunshine News**

There are now Shut-in cards on the tables each week along with the comment cards. If you know of a fellow Rotarian who is unable to make it to the meeting and would appreciate a visit from a friend, please fill out one of these cards and give it to PJ or Scott Russell.

Jack Burns reports that member Frank Saul and his wife Betty are spending most of their time at home these days where they are getting good care. They would, however, appreciate phone calls and perhaps even a visit from any Rotary friends. Frank and Betty live at 519 Cayuga Heights Road and you may call them at 257-6560.

- **Rotary Meeting Make-up Opportunities**

For a complete list of local club meetings where you can make up a meeting, please click on the following link and you will be taken to a comprehensive list. If you are traveling out of the area and would like to attend a Rotary meeting, please see Scott Russell and ask to see the Official Directory. <http://www.ithacarotary.org/ithaca/makeups.html>

FEATURED ROTARIANS

- **Visiting Rotarians**

Barry Downing (Endwell, New York)

Dan Brown (Ithaca Sunrise)

- **Rotary Ambassadors**

9/22: Karen Macier (Cortland, New York)

10/23: Tony Pesco, Dick Charsky, Jeff True (Ithaca Sunrise)

10/30: Tony Pesco, Barb Caldwell, George Gull (Ithaca Sunrise)

11/6: Bill Hawley, Rich Farr (Ithaca Sunrise)

11/13: George Gull, Barb Caldwell (Ithaca Sunrise)

11/20: Tom Sanford, Paul Steiger (Ithaca Sunrise)

- **Contact Information for our Youth Exchange Students**

Esteban Campos-Hernandez (Costa Rica)

Host family Mike and Joyce Billing

6 Pheasant Lane, Ithaca, 272-9208

Michal Sykora (Slovakia)

Host family John and Ann Costello

8 Winthrop Place, Ithaca, 257-0919

Jose Salcedo-Martin "Pepe" (Mexico)

Host family Amdrea Parrot & Steve Allen

8 Legrand Court, Ithaca, 277-1695

HAPPY DOLLARS

Ralph Jones three to let us know about "Freebay for us" which is a web site that connects school employees who have special needs with people outside the school community who can fulfill those needs. Anyone who would like to see if they can help out can visit the site at www.freebayforus.org or can e-mail questions to allofus@clarityconnect.com.

Jean McPheeters one for receiving a postcard from Russ Sprague on the road sharing his experience climbing Mount Rainier while wearing his Chamber of Commerce hat - many people were impressed.

Janet Steiner three to announce that the County library will be open on Sundays again starting in January thanks to a gift from Senators Seward and Kuhl and two philanthropic gifts from members of the community. This will continue throughout the year thanks to these generous gifts.

John Losurdo with his mom, June Losurdo, five to ask for help with collecting box tops to help the Lansing Elementary School and to promote the Coaches for Cancer basketball game on Tuesday, December 2. The game features Cornell versus Ithaca College and the money raised will go towards cancer research. Come on out and enjoy!

Dave Dunlop five to let us know that Cornell won its own Body Bar Invitational wrestling tournament last week and to invite us to the Friedman Strength and Conditioning Center to watch Cornell wrestling compete with the best teams in the nation.

Warren Allmon three to announce that the Museum of the Earth has just passed 8,500 visitors and that the second half of the exhibits are finished and will be open to the public starting November 29th! Stop by and enjoy the museum in all its glory.

Elayne Nicholas one to thank Beverly Baker who was able to find a seat on a flight to England for a relative in desperate need. When there were no seats to be found, Beverly found one. Thanks so much.

Carm Hill one to announce that while in Cleveland for his heart surgery, his grandson and wife had their first child, making him a great-grandfather. He always wanted to be great at something!

PROGRAM NOTES “Club Day”

Heidi Goldstein took over the program today with another opportunity for us to get to know each other a little better and to give our club some feedback at the same time. Each table had a form for collecting the information as members were asked to reminisce about memorable Rotary experiences and then talk about how to build our own club into a bigger and better club. Right now, membership is down below 200 for the first time in many years and we need to build our numbers back up.

Whether it is programs, special events, or service opportunities, there are certain parts of the Rotary experience that are more interesting to our members than others. By learning more about what makes our club great, our club leadership will be better able to attract new members by accentuating our most positive aspects. Our thanks to Heidi for giving us another interesting opportunity to share and to learn and we look forward to hearing the results of this day of fellowship.

Special Guest

President Jeff introduced Theresa Myers who recently received a scholarship from our club to help her attend Tompkins Cortland Community College. Theresa thanked us all for this very important scholarship as it made it possible for her to buy books and sign up for two courses that she needed for her degree. Our congratulations to Theresa for her commitment to her education and best of luck to her in completing her degree and moving into a new career.

CALENDAR

December 17: *Meeting* “Boots on the Ground: A Month with the 82nd Airborne in the Battle for Iraq”, Karl Zinsmeister
 December 24: *no meeting*
 December 31: *Meeting* tba

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January 7: *Meeting* “Emerson and Local Economic Development” Gene Yarussi
 January 14: *Meeting* “Indian Land Claims” Robert Venables
 January 21: *Meeting* “The Health Index of our Ithaca Rotary Club & Tompkins County” Donna Rider
 January 28: *Meeting* TBA

February 14-22: Rotary International Assembly (Anaheim, CA)

March 19-21: President-Elects Training Seminar, PETS (Syracuse, NY)
 March 27: Rotary Leadership Institute, Parts 1-3 (Binghamton, NY)

April 1 – 3: District 9100 District Conference, Bamako, Mali, Africa. Our GSE team will be there!
 April 17: District Assembly (Sidney High School)

May 23-26: Rotary International Convention (Osaka, Japan)

June 11-13: District 7170 Conference: Celebrating the Family of Rotary (Binghamton, NY)
 June 20: Ithaca Rotary Chicken BBQ at Stewart Park
 June 25: District Pass the Gavel Celebration
 June 27 – July 2: RYLA 2004

CREDITS & CONTACT INFO

Program Chair: June Losurdo :: *Kettle Watch:* Stan Shepardson :: *Greeter:* Neil Tarallo :: *Thought:* Neil Olver
Introductions: Ralph Jones :: *Happy Dollars:* Jeff True :: *Music:* Jack Burns and Bill Cowdery :: *Photography:* John Ziegler
Setup: Mike Billing :: *Editor:* Dale Flinn :: *Website:* Matthew Dearing

Please address all correspondence to the club to:
 Ithaca Rotary Club P.O. Box 306
 Ithaca, N.Y. 14851
 Attn.: Scott Russell, Secretary

For Newsletter comments, questions or corrections, and subscription requests please contact the Editor at bigd@starflinn.com.