



## THE ITHACA ROTARY NEWS

January 28, 2004

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 February 13, 2004.

*Name:* Teresa Nix

*Position:* Director of Operations and Development

*Company:* Bridges Cornell Heights

*Sponsor:* Jean McPheeters

- **Notes from President Jeff**

Two other Rotarians were instrumental in the recent historic inter-municipal waste water treatment agreement. Past President Jean McPheeters and Mike Hall were also part of the team. Thanks to Jean and Mike for their hard work too.

- **Thank You! to the Holiday Inn staff**

Baskets were passed again this week to collect our annual gift to the Holiday Inn wait staff. Thanks to everyone's generosity, we were able to present Charlene and all of the wonderful people who serve us each week over \$800.00! Thank you all and, of course, thanks to the Holiday Inn staff for all of their great help throughout the year.

- **Membership Month!**

February is Membership Month and we will be focusing our efforts on bringing in new members. Along with a variety of membership-based programs and events, all members will have the opportunity to bring potential new members to lunch at the club's expense. Any member who has a serious prospect for membership can bring that guest to lunch and the club will pay for the guest's meal. One guest per member, per week please. Look around your neighborhood - at home, where you work, where you shop, etc. - and talk to people about Rotary. If you have any questions about sponsoring new members or the process of bringing in new members, see Scott Russell or Heidi Goldstein.

- **Pride of Workmanship Nominations**

The 10th Annual Pride of Workmanship Awards will be presented on Wednesday, February 11 at our weekly meeting. Thursday, January 29 was the deadline for nominations for these awards as Tom Sanford and his committee will be meeting on Friday the 30th to make their choices for this year's awards. Don't miss the presentation on the 11th!

- **Call for Meeting Setup Volunteers**

Dave Flinn, John Hays and Mike Billings have been sharing the meeting setup chores on a monthly rotation basis for the past three years and have done an admirable job. Dave and John have announced their need to participate in other ways and will be phasing out of service this year. So, this is a call for any interested Rotarian to serve the club in this necessary and important activity. It requires that the individual be available from approximately 11:45 to 12:15. (Earlier is acceptable) The tasks include preparing the podium and sound system, putting up flags and banners and assisting the President and program speaker as required. Service will continue to be rotated based upon the number of volunteers, i.e. three volunteers equals one month of service out of three. It is desirable but not required that the setup person be available for the entire meeting. Please see Scott Russell if interested. For further, first hand information, talk with Dave, John or Mike.

- **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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued...)*

### • **Rotary Centennial Project Update**

Our Rotary club will be donating a total of 190 trees to the City of Ithaca (one for each year since Rotary was founded and one for each year since our club was founded - 100 and 90 respectively) over the next year and a half as our Rotary Centennial Tree Project. For those of you who participated in last year's PT Cruiser Raffle, our club received a mini grant from our district from the funds raised in that raffle to support this Centennial project. In cooperation with the City Forester, a map showing the location of all the future plantings and describing the types of trees to be planted has been created and Rotarians can purchase a tree as a gift or memorial and choose where it will be planted. Trees are \$79.00 each and make great gifts. Please contact Beverly Baker if you would like to purchase a tree and help support this wonderful project.

## FEATURED ROTARIANS

### • **New Member Introduction**

Beverly Baker introduced our newest member today, Lenore Schwager. Lenore has been the Executive Director of the Fingerlakes Independence Center since July of 1991. She is President of the Health Planning Council Board of Directors, active in the League of Women Voters, and enjoys knitting and crossword puzzles. Lenore is married with two children and six grandchildren. Please welcome Lenore Schwager to our club!



### • **Rotarian Ambassadors**

12/30/03: Matthew Dearing (Geneseo, IL)

1/17/04: Jim Vorp (Guelph, Ont. Canada)

### • **Visiting Rotarians**

Eric Lindstrom (Ithaca Sunrise)

### • **Meet our Exchange Students**

All club members are invited and encouraged to spend time with our exchange students while they are here. If you would like to invite them to dinner at your home, offer to drive them to an event, share a family event with them, or just get to know them better, please feel free to contact them and make a date!

### • **Contact Information for our Youth Exchange Students**

*Esteban Campos-Hernandez (Costa Rica)*

Host family John and Ann Costello

8 Winthrop Place, Ithaca, 257-0919

*Michal Sykora (Slovakia)*

Host family Mike and Joyce Billing

6 Pheasant Lane, Ithaca, 272-9208

*Jose Salcedo-Martin "Pepe" (Mexico)*

Host family Mary and Arnie Schwartz

9 Laura Lane, Ithaca 257-4774

## HAPPY DOLLARS

**Steve Froehlich** (host) one for his wife who survived a potential massive coronary because (and one for his son) his son who has been serving in Baghdad for the last nine months, surprised his mom by walking through the door unannounced last Monday. He's on his way back already, but mom and dad remain proud of the work he is doing for his country.

**Nancy Rosen** one for the life of Stuart Halpert. Stuart was a fixture on The Commons for many years and suffered from schizophrenia. Although very bright, Stuart was never able to complete college, but he was able to learn to live on his own and to find work at Family and Children's Services as well as participate in other volunteer opportunities in the community. Many of us may not have known him, but would have recognized his tall, lanky, countenance as he made his way around the community.

**Scott Russell** three for his annual promotion of a Valentine's day tradition. For \$35.00 you can have a tuxedo-ed quartet serenade your loved one and present him or her with a beautiful red rose. Time slots are available on Friday 2/13 and Saturday 2/14. If you are interested, contact Scott.

HAPPY DOLLARS ( <i>continued...</i> )
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**Becky Bilderback** one for a "foster" son from Laos who just made Don and Becky grandparents, and one for a trip to sunny and warm San Diego to see their new grandson!

**Janet Steiner** one to announce that starting on Thursday the 29th, Elvis will be in the library. Actually it is a special system that allows people with visual handicaps to use the internet workstations in the library. This new technology is being made available courtesy of the Cornell Engineers Without Frontiers.

**Larry Robinson** one for his usual report of nice weather (which is why we haven't seen him in a while!) as reported in the Ithaca Journal - it was actually warmer on the surface of Mars than it was in Ithaca!

**Jim Vorp** one for retiring from Borg Warner at the end of December after 34 years, one for representing our club in Guleph, Ontario at the annual Rotary Can/Am Curling Bonspiel where his team finished third, and three to announce a production of "Twelve Angry Men" featuring Jim and a few Rotarians from Trumansburg. The play will be performed at the Trumansburg Elementary School on Feb. 27, 28, and 29 with proceeds going to support the Ulysses Philomathic Library. Announcements about ticket sales will be coming out soon.

**Eric Lindstrom** one for the premier of a new short film at the Chamber's annual dinner on the 29th, and one for his wife Laurie Linn who is no longer the Chair of the Chamber of Commerce!

**Rob Koll** one for becoming the official Lansing Pee-Wee K-1 assistant wrestling coach last week (25 minutes of playing Simon Says), one because his term will be ending next week, and one to announce the annual Hospicare fundraiser as the Cornell wrestling team takes on Columbia next Saturday. Team members have been working hard to generate donations and Dr. Lewis and Dr. Arleo are major sponsors of this event. At least five dollars will be donated for every person attending the meet. See Rob if you would like a pass to attend the meet and help support a good cause.

**Susan Blumenthal** one to congratulate Barbara Mink and her board of directors as well as all the volunteers and helpers who worked so hard to make last weekend's Light in Winter Festival so wonderful. It was a great event and, if you happened to miss it this year, don't miss it next year!

**Dave Dunlop** one for a helpful friend who would always bail him out when he first started at Cornell and ran out of money before the end of the month. Since Barlow always had a little extra lunch money for him, Dave turned to him once again today when he realized that he had left his money at home.

PROGRAM NOTES “ <b>Redirecting Former 'Weapons of Mass Destruction' Scientists: Opportunities &amp; Challenges</b> ”
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*Kathleen Vogel, Peace Studies Department, Cornell University*

Our guest speaker today was Kathleen Vogel, a William C. Foster Fellow with the Bureau of Non-proliferation and the Office of Proliferation Threat Reduction. She is co-teaching a course at Cornell this semester entitled, "The Military and New Technology" and will be at Cornell for the next couple of years - at least.

Kathleen talked to us about a program of the U.S. State Department that is working to redirect and enhance the skills of post cold war scientists who were involved in weapons of mass destruction programs. Primarily operating in the former Soviet Union, the program now has a new component starting up in Iraq. The original program is a multi-faceted approach that helps these scientists with everything from learning to write grants to learning how to operate computers. Other countries are participating in this program and a great deal of valuable research in a variety of fields has already come out of this program. Promising research into AIDS and cancer are just two of the positive results so far. In Iraq, the program is, naturally, quite new and has yet to really take hold. It has been difficult identifying the WMD scientific community and earning the trust of the scientists they have identified.

Kathleen noted that, while this is program of the United States State Department, there are other U.S. government agencies working in Iraq and trying to identify WMD scientists as well, but for a slightly different purpose. The State Department program is solely interested in working with these scientists to provide them with a viable future for their talents and a safer, more useful application of their efforts. Our thanks to Kathleen for a very interesting presentation and we hope to hear more from her on the successes of this program in the future.

*Special Guests:*

Dale Flinn introduced Shari Haldeman and Eileen Bach to the club. Our club is sponsoring Shari as a GSE team member who will be visiting District 9100 - West Africa - from March 1 - April 5. Eileen is also being sponsored by our club for the GSE program, though Eileen is the designated alternate team member. Shari is the 4-H Outreach Coordinator for Cornell Cooperative Extension and Eileen is an English teacher at Ithaca High School. Shari talked for a moment about her previous travel and life experiences and thanked the club for our sponsorship and support. Eileen also thanked the club and let us know that she will be working on creating and maintaining a web site that will chronicle the adventures of the team while they are in Africa. Shari will report on her experiences to the club when she returns, but members are reminded that the entire team will be making a presentation at our annual district conference in June in Binghamton. Don't miss it! Shari and the team are having a great time preparing for this adventure and her report will be highly anticipated. Details about the web site will be published here in the newsletter as soon as they are available.

CALENDAR
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February 11: *Meeting*- Pride Of Workmanship Awards Presentation

February 17: Ithaca Rotary Board meeting - Chamber of Commerce building, 5:00 p.m.

February 18: *Meeting* Warren Allmon, PRI - The New Face Of Natural History Museums

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

February 25: *Meeting* Michael Stamm, TCAD - Job Creation And Economic Development Strategies In Tompkins County

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)

April 21: 2004 Ithaca Rotary Rose Sale!

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
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*Program Chair:* Jeff True :: *Kettle Watch:* Chuck Bartosch :: *Greeter:* Bill Highland :: *Thought:* Jeff True :: *Introductions:* Don Rakow :: *Happy Dollars:* Steve Froehlich :: *Music:* Siu-ling, Jack Burns, Bill Cowdery, Scott Russel :: *Photography:* John Ziegler :: *Setup:* John Hays :: *Editor:* Dale Flinn :: *Website:* Matthew Dearing

Please address all correspondence to the club to:

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Attn.: Scott Russell, Secretary

For Newsletter comments, questions or corrections, and subscription requests please contact the Editor at [bigd@starflinn.com](mailto:bigd@starflinn.com).