



## THE ITHACA ROTARY NEWS

February 11, 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 28, 2004.

*Name:* Loretta Goss

*Position:* Office Manager/Legal Assistant

*Company:* Coughlin & Gerhart

*Proposed Classification:* Law Office Management

*Sponsor:* Mike Brown

- **Ithaca Rotary Board Meeting**

The February Ithaca Rotary Board of Directors meeting will be on Tuesday, Feb. 17 at 5:00 p.m. in the Chamber of Commerce board room. All members are invited to attend and the meeting counts as a make-up in case anyone needs to improve their attendance!

- **Rotary Leadership Institute**

There will be a Rotary Leadership Institute in Binghamton on Saturday, March 27. All three levels will be available and any member of the club who would be interested in learning more about Rotary in general and about the many aspects of club operations is encouraged to sign up. The club will pay the registration fee for this very useful and interesting program. Please contact President Jeff if you would like to sign up. You can also visit the Institute's web site [www.rotaryleadershipinstitute.org](http://www.rotaryleadershipinstitute.org) for more information.

- **Our Ithaca Rotary History**

Past President Fred Antil has taken on the project of researching and updating the history of our Rotary club. As part of this project, Fred is trying to create an oral history. We have many written and recorded artifacts that pertain to the history of our club stored in the archives at Cornell University and Fred is also arranging for assistance in organizing and cataloguing our collection. In order to create the oral history, Fred will be interviewing members of our club and recording their memories and stories. One thing that we are missing is a digital video camera to record these interviews. If anyone in the club has or knows anyone else who has such a camera that Fred could borrow to complete this project, please contact him. Our thanks to Fred for taking on this tremendous project and look forward to seeing the results of his efforts.

- **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.

- **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.

- **Member Contact Info Update**

Matthew Braun's telephone numbers are reversed in the directory. Please correct your directories accordingly. Home Ph - 272-5249, Business Ph. - 273-8284 ext. 5.

ANNOUNCEMENTS <i>(continued...)</i>
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- **A Rotarian Valentine**

Looking for something new, different, and special for your loved one on Valentine's day? How about a gift that will keep on giving for generations to come? 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 and choose where it will be planted. Trees are only \$79.00 each! Please contact Beverly Baker if you would like to purchase a tree and help support this wonderful project.

FEATURED ROTARIANS
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- **New Member Nominations**

Two new members were approved by the club this week. John Butler nominated **Andrew Zepp**, Executive Director of the Fingerlakes Land Trust, and Scott Russell, standing in for Nancy Potter, nominated **Joan Farbman**. After seconds were received, both nominees were approved by the members present. Congratulations to Andrew and Joan and we all look forward to meeting them soon.

- **Visiting Rotarians**

Bill Murphy and Mike Katz (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

PROGRAM NOTES <b>"Pride of Workmanship Awards"</b>
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*Tom Sanford presenting*

Tom Sanford introduced the 10th Annual Pride of Workmanship Awards. This year the committee received 30 nominations, the most ever, for ten awards. As in the past, all of the nominations were excellent and the committee was forced to make some very tough decisions. Tom started by letting us know about the twenty nominees who were not chosen this year:

Mark Tyrell at Cedarview Golf Course; Betty Jane Grant at Coldwell Banker Shaw Office; George Pennypacker at Comfort Inn; the Admin. Facilities and Finance Department, Environmental Health and Safety, Ornithology Lab, and Cornell Police Department at Cornell University; Sharon Williams at Family and Children's Services; Tina Kithcart at Dr. Darlow's office; Theron Johnson's daughter at Johnson Apartments; Kinkos; Rebecca Erlam at Susan Mitchell Law Office; Sandra Miller at Longview at Ithaca; Jacquie Warren at Money with a Mission; Loreen Jump at OB/GYN Associates; Rose Christofferson at the Computing Center; Keith Vanetten at Tompkins County Public Library; Connie Diegel from Tompkins Trust Company; and Wilcox Press all sent in great nominations. One more that was received but was not considered was a nomination of one of our own members by Ross Lynch. The committee has a policy of not presenting awards to our own, so this person was not recognized today despite the well-written nomination.

PROGRAM NOTES (continued...)
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*And now for this year's recipients...*

The committee all took turns presenting, starting out with Bill Rusen. Bill presented the first award this year to **Ken Morton** of Perfect Painters/Heritage Builders nominated by his employer, Ron Ronsvalle. The most telling part of his nomination came in the form of a letter from a customer who described an incident in which Ken was injured on the job one day, went to the hospital for treatment, and then returned to finish the job.

John Butler presented the second award to **Diane Cohen** who was nominated by Scott Whitham at Historic Ithaca. Diane is the Program Manager and, for the last three years has been in charge of Historic Ithaca's architectural salvage program, Significant Elements. In those three years, she has overseen the move to a new, much larger facility on Center Street and has increased sales more than 300%.

Millie Clarke-Maynard presented the third award to **Lisa Wilson** who was nominated by Annette Griswold at Sherpa Technologies. Although only a part-time employee, Lisa is a self-taught bookkeeper who handles all of Sherpa's books as well as coordinating most of the company's social events and community volunteer efforts.

Jim Vorp presented an award to **Irene Rathke** who is the President of the Reconstruction Home. Irene was nominated by George Schneider because she came out of retirement to take on the challenge of turning a facility around. When she agreed to take on the job, RHI was in deep financial trouble, had low employee morale, and had received a high number of serious deficiencies during a state inspection. Within one year the inspectors found only six minor deficiencies, workers enjoy coming to work, the facility is providing first class care, and is operating within budget.

Guy Tabacchi made the next presentation to **Ken Brown** at Fingerlakes Sailing Services who was nominated by Matt Hainey, his boss. Ken, a cabinetmaker by trade, created a line of mahogany trim and accessory pieces for the company in just six months. The line was critically acclaimed at the Atlantic City Boat Show this month and is already a great success. Ken is also a great asset to the company.

Don Rakow made two presentations. The first was to **Mickey McGivern**, Director of Patient Services at Hospicare and Palliative Care Services. She was nominated by Hospicare Director Nina Miller. Mickey is active with the Cancer committee and the Palliative Care committee at Cayuga Medical Center along with all of her duties at Hospicare. She was nominated for her caring, commitment, and professionalism.

Next up was **Bob Hunt**, Construction Manager for Better Housing for Tompkins County. Bob, a Charter Member and Past President of the Ithaca Sunrise Rotary club, was nominated by the Executive Director of BHTC Stacy Crawford. Along with the many hats Bob wears at BHTC, he took on the job of coordinating last summer's Group Work Camps. This program brought more than 400 youths and their leaders plus 80 local volunteers to our community to provide small repairs and clean-up work for elderly, low-income, and disabled people throughout the county.

Cal Walker presented the next two awards, the first going to **Barbara Thorpe** from the Sciencenter. Charlie Trautmann nominated Barbara who, as the Director of Operations, has focused on customer service, staff training, dedication to accuracy (she is the proofreader of choice), adaptation to change, and has been a passionate contributor to and supporter of the Sciencenter.

Cal's second presentation was to **Tom Edwards**, Executive Director of the Mutual Housing Association of Tompkins County. When Tom showed up for his first day of work, he had 28 living units to manage and a completely empty office - no furniture, computer, phone, or supplies - to do it with. Carol Ann Brust nominated Tom who has, since that first day in 1999, strengthened the organization and helped to empower the residents who are part of the program and helped to bring their dreams of owning a home to fruition. He also created a special scholarship to help the children of the association's residents.

Tom Sanford stepped up to present this year's team award to **Team Social Security**. David Cook nominated these five women who, by productivity measurements established by the Social Security Administration, run the number one office in New York State. Peggy Kilpatrick, Diette Spicer, Debra Streever, Tracy Weaver, and Donna Ray. Together they do the work that eight years ago took eleven people with no reduction in workload. With a 100% rating being the standard most offices strive for, this team received a rating of 130%!

*Congratulations to all of this year's phenomenal winners!*

PROGRAM NOTES ( <i>continued...</i> )
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Finally this year, the committee decided to present a special award in recognition of this year's Rotary International theme, "Lend A Hand." As with all of the awards this year, the committee had a very difficult time choosing just one awardee and so, President Jeff True proudly presented Team Social Security and Lisa Wilson of Sherpa Technologies with special Lend A Hand Pride of Workmanship Awards. Team Social Security takes on many community projects such as bell ringing for the Salvation Army, often giving up lunch time and vacation time to participate. Lisa, on top of her commitments at Sherpa Technologies, is also very active in her church and helps coordinate an annual youth mission program there.

It was a wonderful afternoon of presentations and a great honor for those of us present who were able to meet all these dedicated employees and to hear the depth of their commitment and resolve. Our thanks to Tom Sanford and all the members of the Pride of Workmanship committee for their tremendous effort and a great presentation.

CALENDAR
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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 1: District GSE Team departs for West Africa (travel with the team! <http://gseto9100.tripod.com>)

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 5: District GSE Team returns from West Africa

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

February 23, 2005: A special concert at Ithaca College in honor of Rotary's 100th birthday. Concert is free and the Tower Club will be open for dinner at your own expense.

CREDITS & CONTACT INFO
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*Program Chair:* Paul Steiger :: *Kettle Watch:* Cathy Hauptert :: *Greeter:* Lenore Schwager :: *Thought:* Steve Froehlich ::  
*Introductions:* Brian Wilbur :: *Music:* Jack Burns, Don Hinman, Scott Russell, and Siu-ling :: *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](mailto:bigd@starflinn.com).