



THE ITHACA ROTARY NEWS

February 18, 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 Propsoal**

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

- **Rotarians in Action**

Congratulations to Rob Koll and his wrestling team for completing a weekend sweep of Harvard and Brown to win the Ivy League wrestling title and also for raising more than \$4,000 for Hospicare at their recent Coaches for Cancer event. PJ also presented Tom Sanford with a customized coffee mug from Dynamic Patterns to recognize his significant efforts in presenting the Pride of Workmanship Awards and in chairing the Vocational Service Committee. Congratulations and many thanks to Tom and his committee.

- **New Rotary Theme Announced**

One of the most exciting parts of the annual Rotary International Assembly in Anaheim, California is the announcement of the new theme for the upcoming Rotary year. This year, Peter Brellochs from the Ithaca Sunrise club is representing our district as the incoming District Governor and we are all preparing for Rotary's Centennial year. The theme for this important year was announced recently and we will all be encouraged to "Celebrate Rotary" throughout the next Rotary year (starting July 1).

- **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 for more information.

- **Board Meeting Report**

At the February board meeting, the board accepted a couple of resignations, granted a couple of leaves of absence, and approved one new member. Various committee reports were heard as well as an excellent presentation by Bettie Park in regard to our upcoming annual Rose Sale. The next board meeting will be on Tuesday, March 16 at 5:00 p.m. in the board room at the Chamber of Commerce. All members are welcome to attend.

- **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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (<i>continued...</i>)

- **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.

- **New Rotary Fellowship**

There is a new Rotary Fellowship available for interested members. For those of you new to Rotary, members of Rotary clubs around the world have formed fellowships based on various interests of members. These fellowships allow members to share those interests with other Rotarians around the world. The newest fellowship is the Fellowship of Rotarians for Mine Action. The purpose of the fellowship is to promote fellowship, increase knowledge exchange and understanding among Rotarians interested in encouraging and undertaking projects to: remove and decommission landmines; promote landmine risk education; provide survivor assistance; and sustainable community development. The initial membership fee is \$10 (good until June 30, 2005) and you can send your fee to:

Rotarians for Mine Action
 Attn. Sandy Boucher (treasurer)
 170 University Avenue, 10/F
 Toronto, Ontario M5H 3B3
 Canada
 e-mail: info@rotariansformineaction.org

- **Applications for Ambassadorial Scholarships**

Each year our district offers one Ambassadorial Scholarship and the opportunity to be sponsored for a Rotary World Peace Scholarship. Incoming District Governor Peter Brellochs reminds us that applications for these scholarships for 2005-2006 and 2005 - 2007 are due by June 30, 2004. Candidates must be sponsored by a Rotary club in the district. SUNY Oneonta, Hartwick College, SUNY Binghamton, SUNY Cortland, Ithaca College, and Cornell University Scholarship Centers or Guidance Offices will all be receiving applications and information. Interested applicants can also acquire the necessary forms and information about the programs by visiting the Rotary International web site at www.rotary.org.

The Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship program is the largest program of its kind in the world and offers scholars anywhere from \$13,000 - \$25,000 to study abroad. The World Peace Scholarship is a two-year, \$50,000 scholarship that allows graduate-level or higher students to add to their Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution skills at one of seven select institutions around the world. If you know of anyone who might be interested in participating in one of these programs, please pass this information along. Completed applications along with all necessary attachments should be mailed to:

Peter Brellochs
 1405 Ellis Hollow Road
 Ithaca, New York 14850
 ph. 607-272-3848
 e-mail: peterbrellochs@aol.com

FEATURED ROTARIANS

- **Sunshine Report**

Ralph Jones recently had surgery to replace both of his knees. He is home and would welcome calls and cards from his Rotary friends. This is a good time to remind all members that if you know of a member who is not feeling well, there are forms on the tables each week that you may fill out so that the club can be sure to express appropriate sentiments and to share with the rest of the club. Even if the person does not want calls or visitors, it is still important for the rest of the membership to be aware so that we can provide whatever support is possible or necessary. *Thank you!*

- **New Member Introduction**

Nancy Potter introduced our newest member, **Joan Farbman**. Joan is the Executive Director of the Advocacy Center. She has been with the center since 1985 and has been the Executive Director since 1988. In her spare time, Joan enjoys gardening, antiques, and reading. Please welcome Joan Farbman to the club!

FEATURED ROTARIANS (<i>continued...</i>)
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- **Rotarian Ambassadors**

2/17: Barbara Caldwell (Ithaca Cayuga)

- **Visiting Rotarians**

Bob Baker (Sequim, WA)

Barry Downing (Endwell, NY)

- **Visiting Exchange Students**

Michael Sykora (Slovakia)

HAPPY DOLLARS

Dick Page (host) 11 dollars to impugn the character of our president, and to share two stories of questionable value from the internet - "God Creates Hostility" and an unlikely tale of a Florida farmer, a pond, an alligator, and several clothing-challenged women. For the safety of our readers, neither story will be repeated here.

Jim Vorp three to promote an upcoming presentation of the play, "Twelve Angry Men." Jim is one of the players as is Marty Luster and a number of other T-burg residents. Performances are Feb. 26, 27, and 28 and proceeds will benefit the Ulysses Philomathic Library.

Larry Robinson one for the sunshine we enjoyed today, and five for his wife who let him take her to Hooters restaurant for Valentine's Day!

Phil Meyer ten for his latest granddaughter who brings the total to an even four girls and four boys now.

Tom Hunter one for his daughter who, we all heard, barely escaped the tragedy in New York on 9/11, moved to Lansing last fall, and just became a mother for the first time - presenting Tom with a new granddaughter as well.

Catherine Stulir one for her 13 year old granddaughter who just finished up the season playing basketball at Union - Endicott with 123 points!

Dave Cook \$2.65 to thank the club for the Pride of Workmanship Award that his Team Social Security received last week.

Will Cooke (along with former Cornell basketball coach and cancer survivor Scott Thompson), three for the American Cancer Society's upcoming Mardi Gras fundraiser at the Boatyard Grill (Tues. 2/24 from 6-10 p.m.), three to announce that he has raffle tickets for the ACS event as well, and three more to announce that Bill Cooke Cadillac had two winners of new Cadillacs in GM's Hot Button Contest in the past week. Only six of the vehicles GM is giving away are Cadillacs and two of them came through Will's dealership!

Bob Baker five to let us know, finally, that he was inducted into the Agriculture Hall of Fame in the Veterinary Science category, one of five honorees, and the first from Cornell, inducted at the ceremony in Atlanta, Georgia.

Cathy Hauptert three to announce that Tompkins Trust Company, at a meeting this morning, presented a check for \$1,700 to the American Cancer Society as the result of their Touchdowns for Treatment campaign that accumulated \$100 for every touchdown that the Cornell football team scored this season.

Jack Carpenter one for "getting" his daughter by sending her a Singing Valentine on Valentine's Day, and one for the Cornell wrestling team's sweep of Harvard and Brown for the Ivy League title.

PROGRAM NOTES "The New Face Of Natural History Museums"

Warren Allmon, Director of PRI

Our guest speaker today was our own Warren Allmon, Director of the Paleontological Research Institution. Warren shared with us some of the history and the background of the new Museum of the Earth on West hill. Since Warren took over at PRI in 1992, the institution has gone from three employees to 16,200 visitors per year to an estimated 60,000 this year, and from virtually no volunteer support to more than 9,000 hours per year of volunteer time.

Museums first became popular in the 19th century when British collectors finally began to open up private collections for the public to enjoy and appreciate. Today, museums are places where objects are both kept for study and displayed for the public as well as places of inspiration. The new Museum of the Earth is unique in the northeastern region of North America and not only serves as an historical reference and record of our own area, but a much larger area ranging from Pennsylvania to eastern Canada. It is the largest museum of its kind in that region as well. Some of the unique features of the museum, aside from its size, are its combination of art and science, and its combination of traditional museum presentations with hands-on learning and demonstrations. With over 3 million specimens in their collection, PRI is able to provide a great look at the history of our region and a significant source of research material for scientists from around the world. Most local residents are familiar already with two of the museum's most prized possessions - the Hyde Park Mastodon skeleton (one of the finest and most complete skeletons of its kind anywhere) and a complete Right Whale skeleton hanging in an area designed especially to present this rare piece in its best light.

Discussion about the need for such a museum began in 1994 and, with tremendous help from people like Ray van Houtte, an initial commitment of two million dollars from New York State and the Park Foundation got the project under way. The fundraising still goes on today, with most of the funds accounted for, but a little ways to go yet. Our own Ithaca Rotary club has made a significant contribution to the museum as well, funding a special room for children to study dinosaur fossils. Our thanks to Warren for one of the best presentations we have had and for sharing with us the story of the Museum of the Earth. For more information about PRI and the museum, there are two web sites you can visit: www.priweb.org and www.museumoftheearth.org.

CALENDAR

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 3: *Meeting* "IBCA: 10 Years in our Community", Chris Sanchirico & Anne McLaughlin

March 10: *Meeting* "IC Theatre Arts Department: What's happening here and out there!", Lee Byron, Director of Theater Arts

March 16: Ithaca Rotary Board Meeting at the Chamber of Commerce Building, 5:00 p.m.

March 17: *Meeting* "IC Gerontology Institute & Longview Partnership", John Krout

March 19-21: President-Elects Training Seminar, PETS (Syracuse, NY)

March 24: *Meeting* "IC Environmental Studies Program & EcoVillage", Susan Allen-Gill

March 27: Rotary Leadership Institute, Parts 1-3 (Binghamton, NY)

March 31: *Meeting* Club Assembly

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!

April 27: Ithaca Area Rotary Clubs Spring Gathering at Taughannock Farms Inn

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

CREDITS & CONTACT INFO

Program Chair: Paul Steiger :: *Kettle Watch:* Bob Young :: *Greeter:* Doug McDonald :: *Thought:* Roger Sibley :: *Introductions:* Pat Vaughan :: *Happy Dollars:* Dick Page :: *Music:* Jack Burns and Bill Cowdery :: *Photography:* John Ziegler :: *Setup:* Mike Billing :: *Editor:* Dale Flinn :: *Website:* Matthew Dearing

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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.