



## THE ITHACA ROTARY NEWS

February 25, 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

- **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.

- **District Group Study Exchange Team**

The District 7170 Group Study Exchange Team is departing for Africa on March 1. Team leader Michael Jerome and team members Kristin Sloth, Debbie Giordano, Barbara Harman, and Shari Haldeman will be spending five weeks traveling in District 9100. They will start in Ghana, then travel to Togo and Benin before ending up in Mali where they will attend the D9100 district conference before returning home on April 5. If you would like to follow the team on their journey, they have created a web site where you can find photos and bios of the team and, assuming that they are able to provide updates along the way, you will be able to get updates and photos of their experience. If you want to check it out, the web address is <http://gseto9100.tripod.com>, or click on their picture from the Ithaca Rotary website main page. You will also be able to get their complete report by attending our district conference June 10 - 12 in Binghamton.

- **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.

- **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](mailto:info@rotariansformineaction.org)

ANNOUNCEMENTS ( <i>continued...</i> )
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- **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](http://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](mailto:peterbrellochs@aol.com)

FEATURED ROTARIANS
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- **Paul Harris Fellowship Presentation**

Janet Steiner presented a two-stone Paul Harris Fellowship pin to Dave Dunlop today. This pin is in recognition of Dave's continuing support of the Rotary Foundation and its mission to promote world peace and understanding. Thanks to Dave's support, programs like Group Study Exchange, Ambassadorial Scholarships, and Rotary Volunteer Individual Grants are made possible and people around the world, most of whom Dave will never meet, will find their lives greatly improved. Rotary Foundation programs help bring water to dry villages, medical care to needy children, and drive Rotary's goal of eradicating polio from the face of the earth. Our sincere thanks to Dave for his commitment and support and our congratulations to him for achieving this important milestone.



- **Rotary Flag Exchange**

Kelly Damm recently spent 10 days in Aruba at the Divi resort as part of an annual pilgrimage by the Ithaca Ageless Jazz band and their friends. While there, Kelly attended a Rotary meeting at the Aruba Rotary club and brought back a banner for our club. Adding to our club's banner collection is only one great reason to make up at another Rotary club when you travel. Thanks to Kelly for bringing us another one!

- **Rotary Reports from the Road**

Our own Russ Sprague is on the road with his partner Kelly, living out of his motorhome and exploring the country. He and Kelly sold their home in Ithaca last year and took to the road. Since then they have visited three Canadian provinces and 18 states. Russ has kept in touch with Barlow and his latest report says that they are planning a stop in Ithaca this summer for their annual tune-ups and visits with friends. Once they have completed their tours of the interior states, they are planning to "return to Ithaca, buy another house and settle down - for the next phase of our life adventure." Thanks for the update, Russ, and we hope to see you when you visit this summer. You have not been forgotten - yet!

- **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. Beverly Baker was also recently under the weather but should be back to work by now. Calls would also be appreciated.

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!*

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

1/12: Kelly Damm (Aruba)

2/11: Warren Allmon (Geneva, NY)

2/17: Guy Tabacchi (Ithaca-Cayuga)

2/23: Steve Froehlich (Salida, CO)

- **Visiting Rotarians**

Barry Downing (Endwell, NY)

- **Visiting Exchange Students**

Esteban Campos-Hernandez (Costa Rica)

Michal Sykora (Slovakia)

Jose Salcedo-Martin "Pepe" (Mexico)

HAPPY DOLLARS
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*Errata:* Last week's Happy Dollars mistakenly reported Catherine Stulir as a grandmother - please insert "daughter" in her happy dollar in place of "granddaughter."

**Becky Bilderback** (host) four because it has been four months since she has seen the ground and it should happen this weekend!

**Rob McKenzie** one for the latest Excellus report which compares Cayuga Medical Center with ten other hospitals in the surrounding areas in ten areas where they do the most work - CMC finished first in 6 of those ten categories!

**Rich Spingarn** one for his son Russell who was selected as a National Merit Scholarship Finalist - less than 1% of students nationwide achieve that designation - and now all that is left is to figure out how to pay for college!

**Janet Steiner** one to announce that The Rosetta Stone software is now available at the County Library with thanks to the Rotary club and others in the community. This software can be used for free and offers anybody the chance to learn the English language. If you know anyone who would like to learn English, send them to the library!

**Chris Sanchirico** one for her daughter who is also a National Merit Scholarship Finalist and who is also wondering how to pay for college.

**Carm Hill** two, one for each knee, as he visited Ralph Jones before coming to the meeting. Ralph is doing well, happy to accept cards and calls, and sent us a musical happy dollar through Carm as well.

**Dave Dunlop** three for the three wins by the Cornell wrestling team last weekend - bring excitement, happiness and joy into your life by becoming a Cornell wrestling fan!

**Audrey Edelman** one for celebrating their firm's 15th anniversary on Monday - she started 15 years with 15 employees and now has 46, including a wonderful birthday present in the recent acquisition of our own Peggy Haine.

**Dale Flinn** two for Past District Governor Bob Grantham who is doing better health-wise, but had asked Dale to take his place on a Rotary Individual Grant should he not be able to participate himself, two for the two weeks he will be spending in Ghana as PDG Bob's replacement on the Individual Grant, and one for Dave Dunlop and all of the other members of the club who have donated to the Rotary Foundation - it is those gifts that make this Individual Grant and this tremendous opportunity possible.

PROGRAM NOTES “ <b>Job Creation And Economic Development Strategies In Tompkins County</b> ”
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*Michael Stamm, TCAD*

Our guest speaker today was Michael Stamm, Director of Tompkins County Area Development, the local industrial development agency. TCAD, founded in 1964, is unique in that it receives its funding from three sources - the county, businesses that make use of their services, and the private sector. Most such agencies are supported solely by their local governments through sales tax dollars. Cuts in government funding have forced them to rely more upon revenue from their services lately- more than they would like.

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Mike gave us a quick overview of TCAD and then talked about the status of business in our county and some thoughts about the future. Along with all the regular business development functions they perform every day, TCAD was also tapped by the county to create and implement an Economic Development Strategy for the community - something most counties would hire out to expensive consulting firms. In order to accomplish their mission, TCAD uses a three pronged approach - business retention and expansion, new business formation, and business attraction. Whether it is helping an existing business expand or retain employees, helping to secure venture capital for a new firm, or working with local officials on creating an air service task force, TCAD is very active throughout the community.



Although in the past TCAD has focused more on business retention and expansion, future plans include a greater emphasis on business attraction. This greater emphasis will be based primarily on new and emerging technologies that are being developed at Cornell and attracting businesses that will take advantage of those technologies. Materials science and nanotechnology are the two most likely areas for attracting new businesses and TCAD will be using contacts through the university to identify potential businesses that will make good use of Cornell's expertise. Unlike much of the country, the base of small, durable goods manufacturing in Tompkins County has actually grown significantly in the past 20 years, a sure sign that our community is indeed successful at both attracting and developing business.

One of the biggest obstacles that our community faces now is the relatively poor air service at the county airport. The number of flights and enplanements has been dropping severely over the past few years and having good air service is an important factor in attracting and retaining businesses. Michael said that he would like to see the county provide some of the funding for the airport so that landing fees can be reduced and perhaps another airline could be convinced to provide service to our area. As it is, if the last airline serving Tompkins County pulls out, the county would be left with the debt service on the facility anyway. Of course, now is a difficult time to make such a request and Mike and TCAD are well aware of that. Everyone involved hopes that the new Air Service Task Force will be able to develop some useful solutions to this sticky issue.

Our sincere thanks to Mike for his update on TCAD and for sharing his special view of our community.

## CALENDAR

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:* Barbara Eckstrom :: *Greeter:* Jess Esposito :: *Thought:* Fred Antil ::  
*Introductions:* Janet Steiner :: *Happy Dollars:* Becky Bilderback :: *Music:* Jack Burns 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).