



THE ITHACA ROTARY NEWS

March 24, 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 Nomination**

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 March 31, 2004.

Name: Dale Baker

Position: Associate Director

Company: N.Y. Sea Grant (Cornell)

Sponsor: Bob Baker

- **Rotary Roses are Growing Again!**

Rotary Roses is fast approaching! The date for this year's delivery will be Wednesday, April 21, deadline for orders will be Wednesday, April 14. Member sales packets are out - order forms, a poster, and Rose Sale fact sheet are included - please pick them up at next week's meeting if you have not received yours already. We are growing Rotary Roses again this year. President Jeff encourages all members to invite the community to support our fundraiser by reaching out to a business, organization, board of directors, or church group to help us make this year's sale our best ever. The sale has grown each year - last year almost 20%! - and is our primary source of funds for our annual Community Grants. Last year 14 area organizations received Community Grants and more than \$6,000 was distributed. Bettsie Park let us know that the Rose Sale Committee has set a long term goal for growth as well as their goal of matching that 20% growth for this year. That means that our club should sell more than 800 dozen roses to reach that goal. As an added incentive, any member selling at least 36 dozen roses will become a Knight of the Rose! This year's motto: "Sell more, Make more, Do more!" For more information, contact the Rose Queen, Bettsie Park, at 272-4902 or 15steps@clarityconnect.com.

- **Rotary in the News**

The District PR committee has made arrangements for FOX 40 TV to air a 30-minute Rotary video on SUNDAY, APRIL 11 (Easter Sunday), at 6:30 p.m. The title of the video is "Rotary In Your Community and The World." Jake Leet, local General Manager of FOX 40 and a Binghamton Rotarian, has made these arrangements for us.

- **Exchange Student's for Hire**

Bettsie Park announced that Esteban and Michal, two of our exchange students, are looking for odd jobs to help them raise some money. Each year, exchange students are offered the opportunity to participate in a month-long trip around the United States. The trip is at their own expense and Esteban and Michal's parents have been able to provide some of the money they need, but have challenged them with coming up with the remainder on their own. If you have any odd jobs that need doing, call Esteban or Michal (numbers listed below) and sign them up. Bonus: You will get to know them better as well!

- **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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued...)

- **A Special Report from our District GSE Team**

This report was received recently from our GSE Team Member Shari Haldeman. Our club sponsored Shari for this trip and we will all have an opportunity to hear more about this excellent adventure in May. Here is the latest report from the team as they have had limited time to communicate and have been taking turns writing home. For a complete compilation of their reports and possibly even some photos, you can also visit their web site at <http://gseto9100.tripod.com>.

"I have finally found a moment to write, and to share a few thoughts regarding this spectacular journey through West Africa. This truly has been a trip of a life time....from the most beautiful relationships formed in Ghana; to the heart-wrenching stories in Togo; to the contagious joy in Benin; and the far-reaching landscape and culture of Mali, none of us could have ever anticipated such a full experience that will no doubt last each of us a lifetime.

We are now in the Mopti region of Mali, having just returned from the historical Dogon region. The opportunity to witness such an indigenous and culturally rich community of people is beyond words. I am thankful that as a group we did not feel pity for the perceived poverty and lack of resources, but rather rejoiced in the beauty of the surroundings, and the persistence of a people to persevere and be proud of their heritage. I suppose the difficult part for me personally, was feeling like I was an intruder and a spectator. I guess I can't figure out why we as Westerners feel entitled to "tour" what is someone else's sacred land and home; it no doubt affects the integrity of culture (as we later discussed with some local Peace Corps volunteers). Nevertheless, I do believe this team has been remarkable under the circumstances, and has always interacted with the upmost respect and care.

We all remain healthy and happy. We of course look forward to seeing friends and family soon, but at the same time, we are not yet ready to leave this beautiful African space, and all the dear friends we have met along the way.

I could go on for hours about our experience here, and the things we have seen -- orphanages, women's centers, factories, farms, nature preserves, water communities on stilts, goats, goats, and more goats. We have taken pictures, but they can never do justice to the senses, and to the emotion felt every second of the day. We will do our very best to share these treasures upon our return.

Much love to everyone, and please count every blessing you have. There is an entire world out here that has much less than we could ever imagine, yet never neglects to appreciate each and every day.

Peace,
Shari"

- **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

- **Paul Harris Special Presentation**

The Rotary Foundation supports a wide range of international humanitarian programs with a mission of promoting world peace and understanding. These programs are funded by the contributions of Rotarians around the world through the Annual Programs Fund and the Permanent Fund - contributions from people like our own Brian Wilbur. Brian has made a commitment to the Rotary Foundation and today we recognize him for that commitment. Janet Steiner presented Brian with the lapel pin, medal, and certificate that are given in honor of reaching the \$1,000 level of giving and accords him the title of Paul Harris Fellow. Our thanks and congratulations to Brian for reaching this level of giving and for his continuing support of the fine programs of the Rotary Foundation.

- **Welcome Back**

Pres. Jeff welcome back to two Rotarians who have been out for a while. Sue Munson was back after an altercation with a commercial Ping Pong table and Joanne Florino was back with us today.

- **Rotarian Ambassadors**

2/19: Rich Farr (Ithaca Sunrise)

2/26: George Gull (Ithaca Sunrise)

3/11: Rich Farr (Ithaca Sunrise)

3/17: Jim Vorp (Harbourtown, Duluth MN)

3/18: George Gull (Ithaca Sunrise)

- **Visiting Rotarians**

Mark Hasse (Ithaca Sunrise)

- **Visiting Exchange Students**

Esteban Campos-Hernandez (Costa Rica)

Michal Sykora (Slovakia)

Jose Salcedo-Martin "Pepe" (Mexico)

PROGRAM NOTES "IC Environmental Studies Program & EcoVillage"

<i>Dr. Peter Bardaglio, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Ithaca College</i>

<i>Dr. Susan Allen-Gill, Associate Professor of Biology, Ithaca College</i>

Mike McGreevey introduced our speakers today, Dr. Peter Bardaglio who is Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Ithaca College as well as a Professor of History, and Dr. Susan Allen-Gill, an Associate Professor of Biology and currently the principal investigator on an NSF grant to develop a science-based sustainability curriculum at Ithaca College. In her pursuit of that goal, she is also partnering with Eco Village and Sustainable Tompkins County.

Peter started the discussion with a general talk about the educational side of the sustainability issue and how Ithaca College is taking on a ground-breaking effort to put a scientific foundation under sustainability. Leading the way will require a proper facility and, with a lead donation from the Park Foundation, Ithaca College will soon add a new building to their business school that will house this program. There are three main resources that comprise sustainability - economic resources, social resources, and environmental resources. It is the area where these resources all come together that interests Peter and his associates the most.

Susan then spoke to us about her involvement in sustainability, specifically the programs Ithaca College is currently running in cooperation with Eco Village. Students are participating in projects that will benefit residents of Eco Village such as land-use studies in regard to a proposed addition to Eco Village, design and implementation of a new bus stop for the village, and the adaptation of new environmentally friendly technologies both to Eco Village and to the world at large. They are also building special displays for Earth Day that demonstrate environmentally friendly building techniques and two special trailers that will become portable solar panel demonstration units. These programs again demonstrate the commitment of Ithaca College to our community and to our world. Our thanks to Peter and Susan for taking time out of their busy schedules to share their passion with us.

For more information about their sustainability programs, you can find a link on the Ithaca College home page at www.ithaca.edu.

PROGRAM NOTES (<i>continued...</i>)

- **Special Guests**

Our first special guest today was Wendy Baxter. Wendy, from Bath, New York, was a Youth Exchange student to Johannesburg, South Africa in 1997 - 1998. She thanked Rotary for the opportunity to take part in this wonderful program and shared with us some of her experiences since that program. While in South Africa, she was able to see a good bit of the country as her host club arranged for trips to the northern and southern parts of the country as well as in and around Johannesburg. Travel became an important part of her life after her exchange as she has been to Tanzania, Australia, Mexico, and Central America. This fall she will be heading to the Netherlands to begin a masters program in Environmental Science. In the process, she has also learned a great deal about other cultures and how to appreciate those cultures especially. If it were not for the Rotary Youth Exchange program, none of this may have happened to her and she thanked Rotary for having such an important impact in her life.

Our second special guest today was Bill Heffner. Bill is organizing IHS Career Day 2004 at Ithaca High School and came by to ask if any of our members would be willing to participate. Students at IHS are given the opportunity to meet with and listen to people from around the community who share details of their careers. The program has a web site you can visit to find out more about the program, what type of speakers they are looking for, and fill out an information form if you would like to participate. IHS Career Day is Wednesday, April 21 from 8:00 - 9:35 am and if you are interested in finding out more, visit their web site at:

www.icsd.k12.ny.us/highschool or call Ithaca High School Student Services at 274-2157

CALENDAR

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 7: *Meeting* Mary Kane Trochim Topic: TBA

April 14: *Meeting* “TC3 Update”, Carl Haynes

April 17: District Assembly (Sidney High School)

April 21: *Meeting* 2004 Ithaca Rotary Rose Sale!, Topic: TBA

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

April 28: *Meeting* “Home Health Care”, Elizabeth Classen

May 5: *Meeting* “10,000 Villages Store”, Pat Lawless

May 12: *Meeting* Ithaca Rotary Community Grants Presentation

May 19: *Meeting* “Hospicare”, Nina Miller

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

May 26: *Meeting* GSE Team Presentation

June 11-13: District Conference, Binghamton, NY Celebrating the Family of Rotary

June 20: Ithaca Rotary Chicken & Ribs BBQ at Stewart Park

June 25: District Pass the Gavel Celebration

June 27 - July 2: RYLA 2004

CREDITS & CONTACT INFO

Program Chair: Mike McGreevey :: *Kettle Watch:* Bob Baker :: *Greeter:* James Brown :: *Thought:* Tom Sanford ::

Introductions: Elayne Nicholas :: *Music:* Jack Burns :: *Photography:* John Ziegler :: *Setup:* Dave Flinn and Catherine Stulir :: *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.