



## THE ITHACA ROTARY NEWS

May 19, 2004

The official bulletin of the Rotary Club of Ithaca, NY  
Chartered in 1915 :: District 7170

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **New Members Proposals**

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 June 9, 2004.

*Name:* Joe R. McAfee

*Employment:* President, Somark Corp.

*Sponsor:* George Schneider

- **Rotarians in Action**

Our own Rod Ghearing will be leaving us soon. Rod has accepted a new position as CEO of the Grand Valley Transit System in Grand Junction, Colorado and will be leaving Ithaca at the end of June. Best of luck to Rod!

- **It's Time to BBQ!**

The Ithaca Rotary Chicken and Ribs BBQ is coming up on Sunday, June 20. Tickets and sign up sheets for volunteers will be available at our meeting starting June 8. Please mark your calendars now and plan to help out with this very important fundraising activity.

- **RYLA Sponsorship**

For the 22nd year, our club will be sponsoring students at the District 7170 RYLA program. RYLA – Rotary Youth Leadership Award - sponsors a week-long program for high school juniors each year in Oneonta. This year our club is sending four members of our community to RYLA where they will meet other youth leaders from schools throughout our district and spend the week learning about themselves and about leadership. This year's program runs from June 27 to July 2 and we will certainly be hearing a report from our participants upon their return.

- **Helping with new Electronic Voting Systems**

One of our recent speakers, Bo Lipari, has founded a new organization to help bring New York State up to date with electronic voting systems safely and reliably. The new group, New Yorkers for Verified Voting has a web site and Bo is looking for interested parties who are interested in helping out. If you are interested in being a part of this process, you can contact Bo or visit his web site at: [www.nyvv.org](http://www.nyvv.org) or [bolipari@nyvv.org](mailto:bolipari@nyvv.org).

- **Changes to Student and Exchange Visitor Information System**

Proposed changes in the SEVIS system - Student and Exchange Visitor Information System - are going to have a huge impact on Rotary's Youth Exchange Program. The new J-1 Visa requirements would prohibit any inbound exchange students who have graduated from school in their home country from participating in the Rotary Exchange program here in the U.S. Some of the countries currently participating in the Rotary program have already indicated that they will no longer participate in the Rotary program should these rules be put in place. Rotary requires that any country that wants to participate in the Youth Exchange program must both send and accept students in order to be part of the program. These rules could seriously compromise the value and success of this program. Rotarians are encouraged to contact their government representatives and urge them to oppose these changes. The easiest way to reach your representative is via e-mail at [www.house.gov/writerep/](http://www.house.gov/writerep/) or [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov). There is a sample letter available should you wish to send a hard copy, see President Jeff for more information. It is recommended that snail mail letters be sent to the local offices rather than the Washington offices.

- **Ithaca Sunrise Garage Sale!**

Ithaca Sunrise Rotary is holding their annual Garage Sale on Saturday, June 19. Proceeds from the sale help support the club's Youth Exchange program and other projects. Donations of goods will be accepted until June 18 and pick up is available. The sale will take place at Locke Woods Interiors on Route 13 just across from NYSEG. For more information or item pickup, contact Roni Mays or Kathy Larson at 277-8067 or [roni@retirementessentials.com](mailto:roni@retirementessentials.com)

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- **Ithaca Rotary Board Elections**

The nominating committee chaired by Past President Jean (George Gull, Nancy Rosen, Bob Gravani, Don Kompf, and Rich Spingarn) nominated three members of the club for positions on next year's board of directors as Members at Large per our club by-laws. Members at Large serve a one-year term and may serve no more than three years. With thanks to this year's representatives - Dale Flinn, Heidi Goldstein, and Cal Walker – the nominees for next year were: Dale Flinn, Sue Munson, and Perri LoPinto. After being duly seconded, these nominations were approved by voice vote of the members present. Congratulations to Dale, Sue, and Perri!

- **New Roster Photos**

It's time to prepare next year's Rotary Member Roster! if you want your beautiful mug shot updated this year, see John Ziegler very soon at an upcoming meeting.

- **Rotary District 7170 Conference coming soon!**

On June 11-13, our district conference will be held in Binghamton and there will be some very interesting speakers including the GSE team that recently returned from West Africa and the Individual Grant team who also recently returned from Ghana (featuring our own Dale Flinn). Day rates are available now and a special banquet-only price for spouses who wish to attend Saturday evening's event has been made available as well. Please see Pres. Jeff True if you'd like to attend.

- **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. Jim Showacre has joined the triumvirate, starting in July. Catherine Stulir is already on board, but more help would be appreciated.

- **District 7170 to Offer a Rotary Foundation Cultural Ambassadorial Scholarship**

For the first time, in the Rotary year 2005-2006, Rotary International District 7170 will offer a 3-month Rotary Foundation Cultural Ambassadorial Scholarship, in addition to an academic year scholarship. The Cultural Scholarship is for 3 months of intensive language training and cultural immersion abroad while living with a home-stay family and has a maximum of \$12,000 including transportation. The language training can take place in fifteen languages in more than twenty countries. The three-month scholarship, as well as the academic year scholarship, will be awarded for the Rotary year 2005-06, but the applications are due to the District Rotary Foundation Scholarship Sub-committee Chair by June 30, 2004. Applications should be sent to Peter Brellocks, DGE, 1405 Ellis Hollow Road, Ithaca, 14850. Information and application forms are available on the web by using the following links:

<http://www.rotary.org> >> click on 'downloads' >> 'The Rotary Foundation' >> 'Educational programs' >> 'Ambassadorial Scholarships'

Use the Ambassadorial Scholarship Application Form (the information on the Cultural Scholarships begins on page 13; to apply it is easiest to print all twenty pages, although some of them refer only to the academic year scholarship) or you may contact either PDG Clayton Alcorn, at 607-753-8187 [calcorn@twcny.rr.com](mailto:calcorn@twcny.rr.com), or DGE Peter Brellocks at 607-272-3848 or [peterbrellocks@aol.com](mailto:peterbrellocks@aol.com).

FEATURED ROTARIANS
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- **Paul Harris Fellow Recognition**

Janet Steiner presented Dave Cook with a Paul Harris Fellowship today. The Paul Harris Fellowship is Rotary's way of acknowledging a financial commitment to the Rotary Foundation. This commitment helps to fund the programs of the Rotary Foundation such as GSE, Ambassadorial Scholars, and Matching Grants. Dave's contributions will help people he is likely to never know or meet, yet they are no less important as the Rotary Foundation continues on its mission to promote world peace and understanding. Our thanks and congratulations to Dave for his contributions and his commitment to the Rotary Foundation!

- **Visiting Rotarians**

Kevin Gross (Cortland)

- **Our Visiting Exchange Students**

Michael, Esteban and Jose (Pepe)

## PROGRAM NOTES “Hospicare”

*Nina Miller, Executive Director*

Our guest speaker today was Nina Miller, Executive Director of Hospicare and Palliative Care Services of Tompkins County. Nina filled us in on the latest happenings at Hospicare and Palliative Services. The program provides complete care for people who have reached the final months of their lives. Typically, patients come to Hospicare when they have been given six months or less to live. Sadly, however, many patients actually do not come to Hospicare until much later. Everything necessary is provided to patients from medication to equipment to spiritual support. Trained health care professionals are available to provide any type of care needed to ease the final few months of life. Support is provided both at the Hospicare residence on South Hill or in the patient's home as requested by the patient. Support is also provided to caregivers and family members throughout the process.

One of the more unique programs offered is a special bereavement group for young children. Hospicare also provides their services without regard to financial ability. While most insurance plans now provide for Hospicare services, they often do not cover all of the costs involved. About 75% of Hospicare's funding comes from patient fees with the other 25% coming from contributions, grants, and fundraising events. Hospicare will have a new, unique fundraiser coming up this August as they will have women swimming across the lake to raise money for Hospicare.

Every once in a while they have a wish list, published in their newsletter, and Nina tells us that the community almost always responds with everything on the list in short order. Nina thanked us for all of the Rotary Roses that we donated a few weeks ago and thanked the community at large for the continuing support that Hospicare receives. Our thanks to Nina for her time and for her informative presentation.

### *Special Presentation*

Jose "Pepe" Salcedo, our Youth Exchange Student from Mexico shared a brief presentation with us that he and a fellow exchange student from Mexico prepared before departing on their respective exchange programs. Pepe gave us a quick look at his home country (which features a 91% literacy rate for example) and a small glimpse of his home town, Cuernavaca. Our thanks to Pepe for his well-prepared presentation and a wonderful look at Mexico from a native's viewpoint.

## CALENDAR

June 2: *Meeting*: IHS Teacher Steve Weissburg: "Education in a South African Township"

June 9: *Meeting*: Family & Children's Services Marketing Director Jessica Ryan: "Marketing on a Shoestring Budget"

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

June 16: *Meeting*: YEP Students - Pepe, Esteban & Michal: "Reflections on the Past Year in Ithaca"

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

June 23: *Meeting*: Don Alhart, PDG 7120: Title TBA

June 25: District Pass the Gavel Celebration

June 27 - July 2: RYLA 2004

June 30: *Meeting*: Pass the Gavel Ceremony

## CREDITS & CONTACT INFO

*Program Chair*: Bill Rusen :: *Kettle Watch*: Dave Barr :: *Greeter*: Bill Highland :: *Thought*: Bob Porteus ::

*Introductions*: David Cook :: *Music*: Jack Burns, Bill Cowdery, and Siu-ling :: *Photography*: John Ziegler :: *Setup*: Mike Billing ::

*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).