



## THE ITHACA ROTARY NEWS

June 9, 2004

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

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Upcoming Board Meeting**

The June Board of Director's meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 15 at 5:15 p.m. Please note a change of venue, as the meeting will be at the United Way offices on North Aurora Street. All current and incoming board members are asked to attend and, as always, all members are welcome.

- **Dues are DUE!**

Dues notices are out for the upcoming Rotary year. Please pick up your dues notice at the next meeting and help save the club some postage. Due to increases in District and International dues, our dues have gone up a little bit for the first time in several years. Dues are now \$90 per six months and the Fair Share program (\$40) will continue for next year. Please make your check out and hand it or mail it to secretary Scott Russell by June 30. Don't forget that you can also include a gift to the Ithaca Rotary Charitable Trust on your dues card. Thank you!

- **End-of-Year Contributions**

The Rotary year is coming to a close and anyone who would like to make a contribution to the Rotary Foundation for this year must do so by June 30. If you have a payment due on your Polio Eradication Paul Harris Fellowship or would just like to add to your giving and get credit for it this Rotary year, you can get your check to Jack Carpenter at any time. As always, any contribution is greatly appreciated and will help support the good works of the Rotary Foundation.

- **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.

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

Greetings Rotarians! Next Sunday - Father's Day June 20 - is our 11th Annual Rotary Chicken & Ribs Bar B Q at Stewart Park. We still need workers in the following areas: Chicken Cookers & Ribs Cookers (starting at 7 AM until about 11 AM); Potato Cookers Noon to 2:30); Set Up Crew (9 AM to 11 AM), Servers (10:45 AM to 1 PM), Clean Up (2 PM until Done). This is one our main fund raisers and we need your help! If you can volunteer for any of the above please email Pres Jeff at <mailto:[Itstruel@aol.com](mailto:Itstruel@aol.com)>[Itstruel@aol.com](mailto:Itstruel@aol.com) as soon as possible. Thanks!

Once again the Ithaca Sunrise Rotary club has threatened to make us look really good on the softball field, so anyone interested in sharing in the glory can sign up to play along with signing up for a shift at the BBQ. The game will start at 10:00 a.m. and warm ups will start at about 9:45. If you have any questions, please contact coach Jim Johnston.

- **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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ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued...)
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- **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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- **Rotarian Program Chairs for 2004 – 2005**

Each month, a Rotarian volunteer takes responsibility for arranging our programs. Anyone who has a potential speaker or program suggestion should contact these monthly chairs directly to determine the availability of time. For the upcoming Rotary year, the following people have volunteered as program chairs:

Overall Chair: Karen Macier

July: Bob Baker

August: Judy Pastel

September: Tom Schickel

October: John Barradas

November: Alan Cohen

December: Roger Sibley

2005

January: Bob Gravani

February: President's Month

March: Paul Steiger

April: Mike Brown

May: Larry Baum

June: Casey Stevens

July: Mike Meador

5th Wednesdays in September, December, and March - Ken Horst.

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

5/23-26: Dave Flinn (Osaka, Japan)

5/20: Phil Meyer (Ithaca Sunrise)

5/25: Dick Charsky (Owego, NY)

5/27: Phil Meyer, Rich Farr, Mary Berens (Ithaca Sunrise)

6/1: Catherine Stulir (Endwell, NY)

- **Visiting Rotarians**

Barry Downing (Endwell, NY)

Dr. Priscilla Sunda Ra Raj (Dhara Puram, India)

- **Exchange Students**

Esteban Campos (Costa Rico)

Pepe Salcedo (Mexico)

Michal Sykora (Slovakia)

Gregory Billing (Returning outbound from India)

Outbound 2004/2005: Adrienne Clerment, Marion Ferguson, Lauren Schwartz, Caitlin Costello.

PROGRAM NOTES “ <b>Ithaca Rotary Exchange Students</b> ”
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*Pepe, Michal, and Esteban*

Our program today featured our Exchange Students - Pepe, Michal, and Esteban who will all be leaving us soon and Greg Billing who just returned from his year in India. Greg spoke first about his experiences which will touch him for the rest of his life. Learning what it is like to be unique in a very large community was one of his more enlightening and enriching experiences. He was most impressed and touched by his immediate acceptance into his host family and with the way that they treated him as if he were their own son. Unlike many Youth Exchange experiences, Greg spent the entire year with one family. One of his host aunts was here with him today and she is also a Rotarian. Dr. Priscilla Sunda Ra Raj from the Rotary club of Dhara Puram presented President Jeff with a banner from her club and an engraved plate.

Next up to talk about their experiences were our three incoming students, Jose 'Pepe' Salcedo from Mexico, Michal Sykora from Slovakia, and Esteban Campos from Costa Rica. All three thanked all the Rotarians who have made their visit so special, including Rotary Aunties Bettsie Park and Simonetta Antenucci and Rotary Uncles John Dietershagen and Don Dickinson. Other committee members who were included in their thanks are Dave Flaccus, Tim Ainslie, Becky Bilderback, and Mike Billing. All three shared their enthusiasm for learning as each one learned at least one new sport or hobby while they stayed in Ithaca - juggling seems to be an important rite of passage for many exchange students! They also all thanked their host families without whom their stays here would not be possible. We also thank these wonderful people for opening their homes and their hearts to these wonderful students. Holly & Michael Kazarinoff, Mary & Arnie Schwartz, Joyce & Mike Billing, and Ann & John Costello were our host families this year. The Costellos will also be saying good-bye to their third Youth Exchange Student as daughter Caitlin will soon be leaving for her chance abroad.

All of these young people have touched many of our lives and have made their own impressions on our community. As they prepare to leave, it is wonderful to see how much they have changed since they first arrived in Ithaca. It is also great for all of us to get a chance to hear about their experiences in some detail and we thank them all for their thoughts and their courage in choosing to spend such a significant amount of time away from home and family.

CALENDAR
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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: "Tie a Double Knot"  
 June 25: District Pass the Gavel Celebration  
 June 27 - July 2: RYLA 2004  
 June 30: *Meeting*: Pass the Gavel Ceremony

July 10: District Pass the Gavel Celebration in Ithaca - details TBA.  
 July 14: *Meeting* Rene Sandsted and Diane Walter: "Haiti"  
 July 21: *Meeting* Steve Griffin: "Foodnet"  
 July 28: *Meeting* Dave Smith: "Bluebirds"

August 4: *Meeting* George Gull introducing the "Trip to Mars"

CREDITS & CONTACT INFO
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*Program Chair*: Jeff True :: *Kettle Watch*: Ross Lynch :: *Greeter*: Paul Steiger :: *Thought*: Robin Korherr :: *Introductions*: Steve Magacs :: *Music*: Don Hinman, Bill Cowdery, Jack Burns, and Siu-ling :: *Photography*: John Ziegler :: *Setup*: Mike Billing, John Hays :: *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).