



THE ITHACA ROTARY NEWS

September 22, 2004

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **NEW MEMBER 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 October 6, 2004.

Name: Joseph Smith

Employment: Public Events Support Specialist, American Red Cross

Sponsor: Casey Stevens

If you have a prospect for membership in our club or would like to learn more about sponsoring a new member into Rotary, please contact club secretary Scott Russell or Membership Coordinator Don Kompf for a list of steps toward sponsoring a new member.

- **ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT NOMINATED**

The Rotary International Board of Directors has announced that William Boyd of Auckland, New Zealand is the nominee for Rotary International President for the 2006-2007 Rotary year.

- **INVITATION FROM WSKG TELEVISION**

We have all been invited to attend a special preview of a documentary on Rotary's efforts to eradicate Polio. The preview will take place on Sunday, October 3 at 3:00 p.m. and the program will air on WSKG on Sunday, October 24 at 7:00 p.m. Contact President Beverly if you have any questions.

- **FALL HIGHWAY CLEANUP COMING UP**

Noel Desch announced that our annual fall highway cleanup day will be Saturday, October 9. Sign-up sheets should be available soon, but please mark your calendars now and plan to help with this very important project. For those who are new to the club, twice each year our club along with the Sunrise club and often other volunteers, clean up Route 13 from Triphammer Road down to Stewart Park. Enjoy a great fall day and some fellowship as well. For more details, contact Noel Desch.

- **SPECIAL GUEST COMING**

Shams Isalm, the current president of the Ithaca College Rotaract Club will be our special guest on Wednesday, October 13. Along with an update on current happenings in the Rotaract club, Shams has some entertainment skills which he has graciously agreed to share with us. The only way to know exactly what he does is to be there, so don't miss it!

- **LANGUAGE TRANSLATORS NEEDED**

Mike McGreevey announced that the International Service Committee is trying to create a club resource by developing a list of foreign language translators who would be willing to offer their skills to guests at our meetings. If you have such skills and would like to help out, there is a sign-up sheet on Barlow's table or you can contact Mike and let him know what language or languages you have to offer.

- **ARE YOU A ROTARY BIG WHEEL?**

Jerry Feist announced a new program in our club called the Big Wheels. Past experience tells us that we often bring new members into our club and then just turn them loose, expecting them to learn as they go and not really offering much support. Big Wheels are volunteer members who will be assigned to new members for about 3 months to ensure that they have someone to turn to with questions and someone to guide them through their first few months as a new Rotarian. Forms will be available on the tables and members are being asked to nominate people (or themselves) to become Big Wheels. If you are interested in participating, you can also contact Jerry to volunteer, nominate someone, or just to get more information.

- **BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS GOLF TOURNEY**

Big Brothers/Big Sisters is also celebrating their 100th anniversary this year and they will be hosting a benefit golf tournament this fall. The first annual Columbus Day Fall Classic will be held at the Country Club of Ithaca on Monday, October 11. For more information, contact them via e-mail at mjb44@cornell.edu.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS (<i>continued</i>)

- **MEETING MOVING LOCATION ON OCTOBER 6**

Please make note that our regular weekly meeting on October 6 will NOT take place at the Holiday Inn downtown. We will be meeting at the Country Club of Ithaca that day, so do not go to the Holiday Inn. For those unfamiliar with the Country Club, take Route 13 North to the Triphammer Road exit. Turn right at the top of the ramp and proceed on Triphammer Road to Community Corners. Turn left at Community Corners and then take the third right onto Pleasant Grove Road (across from the Mobil station). The Country Club is located on your left, just opposite the Cayuga Heights Fire Department. We hope to see you all there. For those that work downtown, carpooling from the Holiday would be a great way to save time and energy - think about it, call a friend, have some extra fellowship time in the car!

- **PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBERS DAY**

On October 20, we will be having a special day devoted to prospective new members for our club. The speaker hat day will be the lead Cornell scientist on the Mars Rover mission, so the talk will be extra special. During the weeks leading up to that day, there will be a number of events and presentations geared toward helping everyone talk to potential new members about Rotary in general and specifically why they should join our club. The club will also pay for the lunch of any true prospect that you invite to the meeting. Please keep the Four Way Test in mind when inviting guests as we need to build our membership level up again in order to maintain the levels of service to our community that we all value. If you have any questions in the meantime about proposing new members or the membership process in general, you can speak to secretary Scott Russell or Membership Committee Chair Rich Spingarn.

- **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPEN**

Registration forms for the 2005 Centennial Rotary International Convention in Chicago, Illinois are now available. The convention runs from June 18 - 23, 2005 and the Ithaca Rotary Club has secured a block of rooms and set aside money in this year's budget to help club members attend this grand affair. Jeff True will be providing more details soon, but mark your calendars now and save these very important dates. Planning decisions will be needed sometime in September, so please give this convention serious consideration and make a commitment to attend.

- **YOUTH AFTER TRAUMA: HOW TRAUMATIC EVENTS CHANGE WHO OUR CHILDREN AND TEENS BECOME**

is the featured topic at the 35th annual meeting of Suicide Prevention and Crisis Service. The speaker is International Trauma Expert Dr. Ricky Greenwald, Director of the Child Trauma Institute. The program will be held on Thursday, October 21. There will be an open house at SPCS, 124 East Court Street, at 6:00 PM; the program will follow at 7:00 PM across the street at the First Presbyterian Church, 315 N Cayuga St., Ithaca. To reserve a place, please send your name, address, phone number, and donation to SPCS, 124 East Court Street, Ithaca, NY 14850. A donation of \$10-20 is requested to help cover costs. For more information please ask Rotarian Nancy Rosen at RosenN@juno.com or call 272-1505.

FEATURED ROTARIANS

- **FAREWELL TO ROTARIAN CHARLIE TREMAN**

Ithaca and Ithaca Rotary has lost another voice as Charlie Treman passed away this past week. Charlie was a very large part of the Ithaca community for many years and an active Rotarian as well. Our condolences to Charlie's family, we will surely miss him.

- **SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY NOV. 7, 2 P.M. STATE THEATRE, THE McPHEETERS ROAST** To benefit the American Red Cross of Tompkins County Disaster Services Fund.

On Nov. 7, join a talented roster of local celebrities and musicians at the State Theatre who will pay homage, sort of, to Jean McPheeters, Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce president and all-around swell gal. Roasters on board at this early going run the gamut from Peggy Haine to Casey Stevens from John Gutenberger to Rick Manning to "Mother Superior," with special skits, songs and surprise guests in the offing. The McPheeters Roast will benefit the American Red Cross of Tompkins County Disaster Services fund. Tickets are \$12 and will be on sale in the near future. For update developments on the roast between now and Nov. 7, visit <http://www.tompkins-redcross.org>

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FEATURED ROTARIANS (<i>continued...</i>)

- **SPECIAL GUESTS**

Becky Bilderback introduced all three of our new Rotary Youth Exchange students as they were all able to attend together for the first time. We have already met Lookkaew from Thailand. She is joined by Audric Save from Belgium and Zoli Kemecei from Hungary. Each of the boys said a few words of greeting and we will certainly be hearing more from them as the year goes by. If you would like to get to know these young people better, they are available for dinners in your home and sometimes need transportation to different events around the district. Contact Becky Bilderback or Tim Ainslie if you would like to make arrangements to spend some time with our students.

- **Our Rotarian Ambassadors**

9/17-18: Gene Erickson, Leadership Institute (Poughkeepsie, NY)

- **Our Visiting Exchange Students**

Audric Save (Belgium)

Lookkaew Pratomthong (Thailand)

Zoli Kemecei (Hungary)

PROGRAM NOTES “Acoustical Renovations of the First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca”
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<i>John Schwartz, Co-Chairman of the Acoustics Committee and a retired physics professor at Ithaca College</i>
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Tom Schickel introduced our guest speaker today, John Schwartz. John is a retired physics professor from Ithaca College and recently served as the co-chair of the acoustics committee and the project manager for a major renovation at the First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca. The church needed a major acoustical overhaul and the organ needed some work as well, so it was decided to undertake both projects simultaneously. Outside consultants provided a list of needs and goals and local contractors McPherson Construction provided the labor. Tom Schickel worked as the architect for the project and created a key solution to one of the problems the church was facing.

Poor acoustics in the church made it difficult for people even standing next to each other to hear each other, especially during hymns or responsive readings. The organ's voice was determined to be too "aggressive" and needed some adjusting. The solutions were to renovate the sanctuary and to send the organ out for major refurbishing and re-voicing. To solve the acoustics problems, the project called for replacing the carpeting with tile floors, replacing the cushions on the pews with new cushions that, while still comfortable, did not absorb as much sound as the old cushions. Old walls which were somewhat flexible, thereby also absorbing sound, were stiffened to provide a livelier atmosphere. The one major problem remaining acoustically was the back wall. A large, flat surface with a beautiful rosette stained glass window, the back wall needed to be modified to polish off the acoustic improvements.

Tom Schickel came up with the ultimate solution, a dry wall version of a Japanese fan opened 360 degrees placed around the rosette window. Finally, the church rebuilt the platform at the front of the sanctuary, making it lower and adding full handicap access. The organ project is still in process with the pipes all back in place and the wind boxes due to be returned soon. Late spring - early summer of 2005 is the scheduled completion date for the organ and the process will be complete.

Our thanks to John for his time, his photos, and his interesting look at a major project here in our community.

CALENDAR

September 29: *Meeting* Reed Smith, Executive Director of Tri-Cities Opera in Binghamton

October 6: *Meeting* Weekly meeting at the Ithaca Country Club - NOT at the Holiday Inn.

October 20: *Meeting* Jim Bell on the Mars Rover Project *and* Bring a Prospective Member Day.

October 26: Eastern Cities Dinner, Rochester Rotary Club with RI President Glenn Estess.

October 27: District 7170 Annual Foundation Dinner with RI President Glenn Estess

November 7: Jean McPheeters Roast to benefit the American Red Cross

November 11: *Meeting* Dr. Benny Widyono, a visiting fellow at the Cornell UN SE Asia Program – “The United Nations and Post Conflict Peacebuilding: Comparing Cambodia and Iraq”

November 15: District Rotary Foundation Seminar, SUNY Cortland

November 17: *Meeting* Dr. Benny Widyono, a visiting fellow at the Cornell UN SE Asia Program - "The United Nations and Post Conflict Peacebuilding: Comparing Cambodia and Iraq."

February 2005: Ithaca Rotary Club's 90th Birthday Bash at Ithaca College - stay tuned for details!

June 18-23, 2005: Rotary International Centennial Convention, Chicago, Illinois

CREDITS & CONTACT INFO

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For Newsletter comments, questions or corrections, and subscription requests please contact the Editor at bigd@starflinn.com.