



THE ITHACA ROTARY NEWS

September 29, 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

Concerns about the following proposals should be received by October 16:

Name: Andri Goncarovs

Employment: Vice President of Research, Clarity Consulting

Sponsor: John Ziegler

Name: Patrick J. McKee

Employment: President, Challenge Industries

Sponsor: Jim Johnston

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.

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM PRESIDENT BEVERLY**

This is your last chance to have your photos taken for the new roster. Final proof-reading is underway and the new roster should be out by the end of October. Please contact Neil Tarallo at Ithaca Photo/On Paper for an appointment or get your own photo to Chris Sanchirico right away.

The President of Rotary International, Glenn Estess, Jr., will be the guest speaker at the annual Eastern Cities Dinner in Rochester on Tuesday, October 26 and at the District 7150 Foundation Dinner on Wednesday, October 27 in Syracuse. All members are highly encouraged to attend one of these events or our own District Foundation Dinner on October 21 where the President-Elect of Rotary, Carl Wilhelm Stenhammar of Sweden, will be the guest speaker.

As part of the Centennial Celebration of Rotary International, a bell is traveling around the world, to end up in Chicago in time for the Centennial International Conference. The bell will be in Binghamton on March 15, details to come.

Tompkins County has an opening on the Water Resources Committee. If anyone is interested in serving, contact the county legislature office.

Tickets for Pancake Day will be presented starting at next week's meeting. Pancake Day will be here soon, so mark your calendars for Election Day at the Women's Community Building and be ready to volunteer when you are asked.

- **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.

- **ANNUAL DISTRICT 7170 FOUNDATION DINNER**

The District 7170 Annual Rotary Foundation Dinner will be held on Thursday October 21 at the Binghamton Regency Hotel. Registration begins at 5, cocktails 5:30 to 6:30, dinner at 6:45 and the evening is scheduled to end at 9 PM. Dinner choices are Chicken Marsala, Prime Rib of Beef, or vegetarian. Cost is \$35 per person. If we do a bus that's an additional \$15. We may just be able to do several cars, vans, etc. Reservations must be in by October 15. This year's guest speaker is RI President Elect Carl Wilhelm Stenhammar from Sweden.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS (<i>continued</i>)

- **PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP NOMINATIONS SOLICITED**

The seventh annual Pride of Ownership Awards are now accepting nominations for properties within the city of Ithaca that have been improved in such a way as to improve the local surroundings and increase the quality of life for the city as a whole. There are a number of categories - commercial, rental housing, owner-occupied housing, and institutional facilities - and properties can be nominated by others or by the owner. The program, sponsored jointly by the Ithaca Rotary Club and the City of Ithaca, will be taking suggestions about potential properties until October 22. The Pride of Ownership Awards will be presented at the Ithaca Rotary Club and the Ithaca Common Council during the first week of December. Application forms are available at the City Clerk's office. For more information, contact any of the committee members - Susan Blumenthal, John Barradas, Peggy Haine, Margaret Hobbie, Jagat Sharma, or Scott Whitham.

- **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.

- **ROTARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE SCHEDULE FOR 2004 – 05**

The Rotary Leadership Institute has published its schedule of classes for 2004 - 05. The Institute has created a three-part training program for Rotary members who are interested in leadership positions at the club and the District level. This excellent series of programs is offered in a number of areas throughout the Northeast region. If you are interested in finding out more about the Institute's programs, you can visit their web site at www.rotaryleadershipinstitute.org.

- **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.

- **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 Inn would be a great way to save time and energy - think about it, call a friend, have some extra fellowship time in the car!

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MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS (<i>continued</i>)

- **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

- **SPECIAL PRESENTATION TO D.A.R.E**

James Brown, on behalf of the Community Service Committee, presented a check to Ithaca Police Chief Lauren Signer in support of the D.A.R.E. program. Our club, with funds primarily raised at our annual Chicken and Ribs BBQ, has been a primary supporter of the D.A.R.E. program for many years. Chief Signer thanked the club for its continuing support and this year's contribution. She also expressed her continuing belief in and support of the D.A.R.E. program as an important tool in the police department's Community Policing programs. Many thanks to all of the Rotarians who support our annual BBQ and make our support of the D.A.R.E. program possible.

- **RESULTS OF MEMBERSHIP FEEDBACK**

Heidi Goldstein presented the results of last week's table talk session about membership and why we are members of this club, why we stay in this club, and why new members should join this club.

1. Why did you join this club? Number one answer - because I was invited! Number two - fun way to participate in community service. Other responses included: the fellowship, networking and increasing my exposure in business, where I can make a greater contribution, and to be a part of the power structure of Ithaca.

2. Why have you stayed in our club? Number one answer - Fellowship. Number two - community service. Other answers: global outlook, youth exchange, what the specific members stand for, and a sense of family.

3. Most inspiring programs or activities? Number one - International events - GSE, Ambassadorial Scholars, and Youth Exchange. Other answers: our speakers/programs, Foundation projects, Polio Plus program, quick involvement, and various community service programs.

4. Finally, what do we tell prospective new members? Number one - our service! Number two - it's about the Fellowship, both local and global. Other answers: the networking opportunities, what Rotary does, the chance to make a difference, fun opportunities to make a difference, it will expand your horizons, the speakers, and it's a vibrant organization.

Now you have all of the tools you need to go out and bring in a new member. Remember, we need at least 50 new members to reach our goal of growing to 225 members this year. Who will you ask?

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FEATURED ROTARIANS (*continued...*)

- **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>

PROGRAM NOTES "About the Tri-Cities Opera Company"

Reed W. Smith, Executive Director of the Tri-Cities Opera in Binghamton

Ken Horst introduced our guest speaker today, Reed W. Smith who is the Executive Director of the Tri-Cities Opera in Binghamton. Tri-Cities is a unique opera company in that their mission is primarily one of education. The company consists primarily of their Resident Artist Training Program - RATP - wherein singers are accepted into the program via audition and spend their time working on their craft. What makes the program unique is that the company does not rely upon outside, paid singers for their productions, thereby guaranteeing the resident artists the primary roles in the productions rather than relegating them to chorus or minor positions as most resident artist programs do. The second part of the companies mission is to provide sets and costumes for other opera companies to rent. This has become a major source of income for Tri-Cities and their sets and costumes have traveled around the world. Recent expansions to their scene shop, costume shop, and set storage areas have helped to improve their ability to provide these valuable services to other opera companies.

While Reed has been known to sing on occasion, his duties managing an opera company with an annual budget in excess of one million dollars keep him off the stage for the most part. In an era when support for the arts is difficult to maintain at best, Tri-Cities Opera Company seems to have found a successful recipe for survival that still allows them to provide very high quality opera productions at reasonable prices. Many successful singers have made their way through the program at Tri-Cities and we are all fortunate to have such a wonderful resource nearby. Our thanks to Reed for his interesting and informative presentation!

CALENDAR

October 6: *Meeting* Weekly meeting at the Ithaca Country Club - NOT at the Holiday Inn - Peter Karp, R.I.B.A., A.I.A., "Cornell Campus Architecture"

October 13: *Meeting* Jim Aneff - District Governor with Center for Citizens Initiatives, Russia

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: *Meeting* Dale Flinn, Rotary Individual Grant Trip to Ghana

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 Widnyono, 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 Widnyono, 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

Program Chair: Ken Horst :: *Kettle Watch:* Ralph Barnard :: *Greeter:* Carm Hill :: *Thought:* Jean McPheeters :: *Introductions:* Mary Berens :: *Music:* Jack Burns and Bill Cowdery :: *Photography:* John Ziegler :: *Setup:* Jim Showacre :: *Editor:* Dale Flinn :: *Website:* Matthew Dearing

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