



THE ITHACA ROTARY NEWS

October 20, 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 November 2, 2004.

Name: Gary Ferguson

Employment: Executive Director, Ithaca Downtown Partnership

Sponsor: Scott Whitham

Concerns about the following membership application should be received by November 9:

Name: Leslie Carrere

Employment: Director of Marketing & Development, Tompkins County Area Development

Sponsors: Peggy Haine, John Butler, and Perri LoPinto

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.

- **OCTOBER BOARD MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

The October meeting of the Ithaca Rotary Board of Directors will be on Tuesday, October 26 at 5:30 at the United Way building on North Aurora Street. All members are invited to attend and the meeting counts as a make-up for those in need of improvement in their attendance.

- **PANCAKE DAY IS COMING**

Dick Charsky, on behalf of the Pancake Day committee announced that the 33rd Annual Ithaca Rotary Pancake Day will take place on election day, Tuesday, November 2 at the Women's Community Building. Ticket distribution and sign-ups started this week, so please get your ticket money in as quickly as possible and be prepared to sign up to help out when you get to the meeting next week. It less than 4 weeks away! We will again be serving pancakes, eggs, etc from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. This is a presidential election year and it will be busier than usual so everyone's help is needed. Sign up early and sign up often. Ticket prices remain the same this year - \$6.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children.

- **CORNELL ROTARACT CLUB DINNER**

Kyle Hengel, President of the Cornell Rotaract Club, invites all members to attend a Night of 1,000 Dinners, an international event to raise money for land mine victims and land mine removal, on Thursday, November 4. The dinner will take place in the International Room at Willard Straight Hall at 8:00 p.m. Finger foods and desserts will be provided. Attendees are asked to bring an international dish to share.

- **ITHACA SUNRISE CLUB SPAGHETTI DINNER**

The Ithaca Sunrise Rotary club will be hosting their annual Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, October 29. Meat and vegetarian all-you-can eat spaghetti will be served in the cafeteria at Ithaca High School from 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children. See any Sunrise Rotarian or tickets will be available at the door. This is one of the primary fundraisers for the Sunrise club, so please come out and support them. The spaghetti is always great!

- **CENTENNIAL BICYCLE RIDE COMING TO TOWN**

Scott Russell announced that a group from Germany is planning a centennial bicycle ride next spring to commemorate Rotary's Centennial year. The group will be landing somewhere on the east coast and then cycling to Chicago in time for the convention next June. They plan to pass through Ithaca on their way and anyone who would be interested in joining them for either all or part of the trip should contact Scott who has more information.

continued...

ANNOUNCEMENTS <i>(continued)</i>

- **COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED**

Jessie Ripple announced that the Community Grants committee is now accepting applications for this year's annual Ithaca Rotary Community Grants. These grants are funded primarily by money raised during our annual Rose Sale and are given to non-profit organizations throughout the county. Any non-profit organization may apply for a grant by simply submitting a request to the grant committee or to the club. Deadline for applications/proposals is January 28, 2005. If you know of any organization that would like to apply for one of these grants, please let them know that applications/proposals should be sent to: Beverly Baker or Scott Russell, Ithaca Rotary Club, P.O. Box 306, Ithaca, N.Y. 14851 or to Jessie Ripple (Chair - Ithaca Rotary Community Grants), 57 Highgate Circle, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850-1487. Any questions, please contact Jessie at 257-6454 or 254-2372.

- **CENTENNIAL TREE PROJECT UPDATE**

On November 13, trees purchased by our Rotary club as part of our Centennial Celebration will be planted around the city of Ithaca. Our goal is to plant 100 trees in honor of Rotary's Centennial and another 90 trees in honor of our club's 90th Anniversary. Members and friends who would like to purchase a tree can do so by contacting Peg Hendricks. A map of locations where trees are to be planted will be available at next week's meeting for those who would like to have a tree planted in a specific location. Anyone who has purchased a tree and would like to participate in the planting should also contact Peg for more details. Trees are \$89.00 each and there are several varieties that you can choose from. Please help us celebrate these important anniversaries and make our city more beautiful.

- **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.

- **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.

- **BREAST CANCER WALKATHON**

Chris Sanchirico would like to announce that the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance's 11th Annual Walkathon will take place on Saturday, October 30, 2004. October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and IBCA's theme for this year's walk is "Breast Cancer and the Environment." The Walkathon will begin with registration at noon at the Center Pavilion on the Ithaca Commons. The two-mile walk will take off at 1:00 from the Commons and end with a 2:00 Rally in the Women's Community Building on Seneca Street. This year's Rally will feature delicious food and desserts from local restaurants and stores. The Walkathon supports IBCA's services, educational programs, and client advocacy in Tompkins County and the surrounding communities. Every dollar raised at the Walkathon is used locally to provide free services to anyone who needs them. This is the community's chance to show its support for all of the people in our area who have been touched by breast cancer. Registration and pledge forms are available at local stores, agencies, schools, and businesses, and at IBCA's office in the Women's Community Building in downtown Ithaca. For more information, call IBCA at 607-277-0960.

FEATURED ROTARIANS

- **NEW MEMBER NOMINATION**

George Gull placed the name of Mary Mulvanerton in nomination for membership in our club and Pat Vaughan placed the name of Arpi Hovaguimian in nomination for membership. After being duly seconded, both nominations were approved by voice vote of the members present. Congratulations and welcome to Mary and Arpi, we look forward to meeting you and getting to know you!

continued...

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

- **SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY NOV. 7, 2 P.M. STATE THEATRE, THE McPHEETERS ROAST**

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>

- **Our Rotary Ambassadors**

10/19: Guy Tabacchi (Ithaca-Cayuga)

- **Our Visiting Exchange Students**

Audric (Belgium)

Lookkaew (Thailand)

Zoltai (Hungary)

- **Our Visiting Rotarian**

Susan Backlund (Seneca Falls)

Dan Brown (Ithaca Sunrise)

HAPPY DOLLARS

George Gull (host) one for our speaker today whose Red Sox won last night, one sad dollar for being in Yankee Stadium to watch the game, and one for one more night!

Michael Meador one for the five actors in Cornell Theatre's latest production, including his son as one of the three student performers.

Mary Berens one for tickets still being available for the Jean McPheeters roast to benefit the American Red Cross.

Brenda Dalmida one for the IBCA Walkathon on October 30, anyone who would like to sponsor her, she is walking.

Nancy Potter one to announce a benefit for the Multi-Cultural Resource Center - see Nancy.

Cal Walker one for a tremendous production of "Dangerous Liaisons" at Ithaca College featuring his daughter.

Ralph Jones 16 dollars for Colgate's 16 points and a win against Cornell last Saturday.

Chuck Nocera one for great baseball, regardless of whether the Yankees or the Red Sox win; one for becoming a grandfather once again; and fivedollars for Jean McPheeters who has been preparing for her upcoming roast by sleeping outdoors and watching Rodney Dangerfield clips.

Jeff True one to remind everyone to sign up for Pancake Day!

Skip Carmichael one for spending the last three weeks lecturing in Italy - he gained 6 pounds though!

Mary-Lynn Cummings one to announce that Audric, one of our exchange students, is trying to raise money for the annual exchange student tour around America next summer. Anyone who has any odd jobs to help Audric out, please let him know.

Dale Flinn one happy/sad dollar for missing Cornell hockey's exhibition game against McGill University because he will be in Lake Placid playing hockey!

Beverly Baker one sad dollar from Ron Lugiano for the loss of Victor Costello who rang the bell for the Salvation Army for so many years.

PROGRAM NOTES “Update on the Mars Rover Project”

Jim Bell, Prof. of Astronomy at Cornell University

Our guest speaker today was Jim Bell who is a professor of astronomy at Cornell University. He is the principal investigator for the Pan Cam portion of the Mars Rover project and gave us an update on the fantastic success of the mission.

Last year Jim spoke to us and showed us an animated view of what the scientists expected would happen when the two rovers landed on Mars. Today, Jim showed us a combination of some of that animation with real photos from the mission. So far the mission has exceeded all expectations - from the extended life span of the rovers themselves to the exciting new finds nearly every day. The rovers were designed to last about two months and have been going along great for nearly six months now. Despite the occasional set back or slow down in operations, the rovers have covered far more ground and worked far better than anyone thought. The Discovery rover has found what scientists believe is solid evidence that there once was liquid water on the surface of Mars, one of the primary goals of the mission. Jim also had video footage from NASA headquarters as each rover landed and began to function and panoramic views from the Pan Cam, all very interesting and beautiful.

While the future of space exploration, and specifically the study of Mars, is being debated in the halls of our government, Jim and his fellow scientists will continue to build their case as the rovers continue to send back data from the Red Planet. Our thanks to Jim for a great presentation, great photos and videos, and for taking the time to share with us.

CALENDAR

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 3: *Meeting*: Keri Szymanski, from TC3, International President of Phi Theta Kappa Honorary Society

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

November 10: *Meeting* Van McMurtry, VP for Government and Community Relations at Cornell

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."

November 24: *Meeting* Official visit from District Governor Peter Brellochs

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: John Barradas :: *Kettle Watch*: Bob Eastman :: *Greeter*: Dave Flinn & Fred Antil :: *Thought*: Bob Gravani ::

Introductions: Pat Vaughan :: *Happy Dollars*: George Gull :: *Music*: Peggy Haines and Bill Cowdery :: *Photography*: John Ziegler ::

Setup: Phil Snyder :: *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.