



#### **Rotary Club of Ann Arbor for 2005-2006**

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Meetings: Wednesday at noon  
U-M Union, 530 S. State St.

*"Harpoon" is the weekly newsletter of the Rotary Club of Ann Arbor. Contact the club to subscribe by email.*

## **The Program for September 14, 2005**

**Speaker:** Carol Hutchins, Head Coach, UM Softball Program

**Topic:** "The National Championship was Great but We Need to Focus on 2006 and Beyond!"

Indeed it was a great and indelible moment in history for the University of Michigan and for Michigan softball and all friends of the program to have the 2005 women's softball team capture the national championship trophy. While Coach Hutchins is most proud of her team in that incredible (and often grueling) road to the national championship as well as the team's memorable visit to the White House, we can expect to hear more on her candid preview of the what lies ahead for the new season. She will have some special comments on the team's exciting new recruits and her visions for the continuing successes of the program. Let's give a rousing Rotary "Go Blue" cheer for both capturing the 2005 national championship title and for the successes of the 2006 Michigan softball team ....and beyond!

**Host/Introducer:** Cathi Duchon

**Song Leader:** Shelley MacMillan

**Accompanist:** Deanna Relyea

Also, Chief Dan Oates will join us to present awards to several Ann Arbor fire fighters and it will be the first week for our 2005-2006 Junior Rotarians.

## **Looking Ahead**

**September 14** (Wednesday) - Reminder for Officers and Directors: The September Board meeting will be held this day instead of the usual third Wednesday. Time (7:30am) and place (Washtenaw United Way offices) are the same.

**September 21** (Wednesday) - Edward M. Gramlich, Retired Governor of Federal Reserve Board, "Life at the Fed!"

Also, an open meeting of the Social Committee will be held at 11:30. Details can be found later in this newsletter.

**September 28** (Wednesday) - Phil Alexander, Tour Leader, "Our Friendship Exchange Trip to Our Centennial Twin Clubs in India"

## **News from the Meeting of September 7**

We welcomed back Tom Roach after a long absence. Tom's had some eye work done and now he can even drive during daylight hours again.

Former long-time Treasurer Jim Lester has undergone surgery. We signed a card for him, wishing him a speedy recovery and return to us soon. (Update of 9/11: Jim is home and recuperating well).

Jim Cook guaranteed good weather for the golf outing Sept. 8. We have to say "golf" outing because the tennis portion was canceled for lack of participants.



Our club was recognized for its tree-planting program in an official city proclamation signed by Mayor John Hieftje. President Norm read the “whereases” and the “be it resolved.” In addition, a plaque prepared by city staff was presented by Roger Fraser, City Administrator, to Ian Glassford, who spearheaded the tree planting project. Congratulations to all and especially to the Rotarians who literally put their backs into the tree planting effort.

Barbara DeBrodt asked for volunteers for Rotary Tutors. Why not take an aspiring young student under your wing?



President Norman said there would be a price increase for the meal starting next week. Beverage with soup or salad will go for \$4.50 (up from \$4.00) and the full meal will be \$7.00 (up from \$6.00). Beverage only will remain \$2.00. Rising costs, you know. It’s the first increase in three years. On occasion, we are planning to have meals which will include a hot entrée. Those will be \$9.00. The less expensive options will also be available.

Sept. 8 has been designated Rotary International Literacy Day. See Beth Fitzsimmons, our literacy guru, if you want to be involved with the literacy committee in addressing this problem among adults in Washtenaw County.



We’ve supplemented our Legacy Conversation series with a five minute profile of area nonprofits. Once a month, we’ll hear from a different organization. Liz Barry introduced our first profilee, the Interfaith Hospitality Network at Alpha House. Julie Steiner is the executive director. “We’re one of three shelters for homeless families in Washtenaw County,” Julie said, “and we’re taking new families coming in from the south.” And did you know children are the fastest growing group among the homeless? Note: More info on IHN-AH can be found later in this newsletter.

## Notes from the Program of September 7



Eileen Spring, executive director of Food Gatherers, was introduced by Chris McMullen. (Incidentally, Rotary will do another food gathering project to benefit Food Gatherers next year). Begun in 1988, Food Gatherers services 150 different nonprofit programs, helping to fight hunger and to meet the daily needs of such customers as Dawn Farm.

Just over 50 percent of Food Gatherers recipients are children; many senior citizens also are recipients of aid. “We were meant to be an emergency provider,” said Eileen, “but now more and more people are turning to us for needs on a daily basis.” She said volunteering was up by 50 percent and food distribution by 40 percent.

Times are changing. Even emergency providers are in crisis. For one thing, there’s very little surplus these days. Bar codes enable stores to order food more accurately. Greater efficiencies in food processing also mean less food to distribute as surpluses.

Eileen said it was easier to get food contributions from the Mom and Pop stores than from some store’s corporate headquarters in another state. But there are way fewer locally-owned “Mom and Pops” from whom to tap. And every year, farmland locally is reduced by 10 percent, which means that more food comes from farther away.

“We’re working with the Washtenaw Housing Alliance to address the bigger picture of food needs,” Eileen said. She was proud to note eight kids had graduated from Food Gatherer’s job training program. “This is our food chain in action,” she said, noting that our club had helped to support that effort.

The News and Notes were prepared by Don Faber. Fred Beutler provided the photographs.

Meeting Statistics: Our reported attendance at this day’s meeting was 139 members. We had three visiting Rotarians and seven guests. In addition, a dozen members participated in the committee meeting for International Projects.

## Other Notes of Interest

**Birthdays:** September 15 – Lloyd Bastian and Pat Pooley, September 17 – Patricia Garcia.

**Make-up Cards:** Neil Bidwell (Petoskey) and Nels Olsen (Frankfort)

**Visiting Rotarians:** Our meeting was attended by Gordon and Virginia Nordby from the Ann Arbor North Club. Virginia is a Past District Governor. Also attending was Roger Steiner of the San Francisco Club.

**Golf Outing and Family Fun Day:** The entire event went off smoothly despite a short drizzle during the last two holes. Here are a few of “Fred’s Fabulous Fotos” as a teaser for the update you will hear at Wednesday’s meeting. Details will be in next week’s Harpoon.



**The Rotary Foundation responds to Katrina:** Rotary zones 29 and 30 (see note below) have established the Katrina Relief Fund with The Rotary Foundation to help streamline the flow of contributions from Rotarians and non-Rotarians looking to assist victims of the hurricane disaster in the southern United States. A committee will work with local Rotary clubs and districts, as well as emergency relief agencies, to meet the most pressing needs of people in affected areas. Here is a link to more information and an opportunity to donate immediately:

[https://www.sporg.com/registration?link\\_type=reg\\_info&form\\_id=31292&view\\_type=windowed](https://www.sporg.com/registration?link_type=reg_info&form_id=31292&view_type=windowed)

Note: Rotary Zones 29 & 30 comprise 24 Rotary districts in 12 Southern and Midwestern U.S. states. These zones include all

of the areas which have been devastated by Hurricane Katrina

**New District 6380 Directories are Available:** These 70-page booklets contain names, contact information, policies and other resources related to our district which includes the fifty clubs in Washtenaw, Livingston, Oakland and Macomb Counties in Michigan and Kent County in Ontario. Bob Baker of the Mt. Clemens club is our District Governor. He will be here for his official visit on October 12. Neil Loney of the Ypsilanti Club is our Assistant Governor. He covers our club and three others. If your Rotary work involves others in the district, you may need a directory. See John White at a meeting.



**It's Rotary Tutor Time:** Since the 2005-2006 program is known as "Rotary Tutors" to reflect the expansion of the math component, here is the essential information "by the numbers."

1) We need both tutors and substitutes. 2) Rotarians and their spouses may serve. 3) Tutors and substitutes may sign up to teach reading, math or either. 4) Tutors commit to teaching once a week for 30 to 45 minutes, sometime between 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tutors' time preferences are honored. 5) Some tutors teach two students, one at a time, consecutively. Some tutors offer to enrich classes, as well. Last year, Millie Danielson gave a talk on weaving. Chuck Olson gave a talk on the growth rings of trees. 6) The tutoring year begins Friday, September 23 with an Angell School-sponsored breakfast for Rotary Tutors at 8:00 a.m. in the school library on the second floor. At the breakfast, tutors learn when and where they will be meeting their students. The tutoring year ends about May 15, although some tutors continue after that, at their discretion. 7) Tutors who plan to be out of town much of October may start work in November. And, of course, substitutes are ready to take over for tutors at any time. 8) This year, any tutors who are not assigned a student will have the option of being assigned to a student at Burns Park School. Both schools have parking on the school site for our tutors. 9) People who have questions may contact Barbara Debrodt at 426-2267 or [bardebrot@umich.edu](mailto:bardebrot@umich.edu).

**Get-to-Know Your Local Not-for-Profits** Here are some details on the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) at Alpha House to augment our reporter's notes above. This presentation was the first in a series for the 2005-2006 program year.

IHN was established in 1992 by a group of volunteer congregations as a rotating shelter to address the increasing issue of homelessness among families in Washtenaw County. In 2001, their permanent location off of Jackson Road was donated by St. Joe's. Alpha House is one of three homeless shelters for families in our county.

Over 2000 volunteers put in over 5000 hours per year to keep it running. Host congregations and groups commit to dedicated weeks during the year to provide inventory and staff. This provides the core infrastructure allowing the professional staff to focus on creating plans for the families so they can transition to permanent affordable housing.

IHN provides shelter to more than 40 families each year. An additional 90 families receive ancillary support services such as housing search assistance, case management, and post-shelter follow-up. All IHN services focus on providing a healthy, safe environment for families as they strive to get back on their feet. To date, well over 495 homeless families have been given a "hand up," more than 70% have made the transition to permanent affordable housing.

You may learn more about this organization on-line at <http://www.alphahouse-ihn.org/> or call them at 734-822-0220.

**Social Committee Meeting:** On Wednesday, September 21, at 11:30am in the Anderson Room, there will be a Social Committee meeting to discuss the coming year's events. All Social committee members and any wannabes, are welcome to attend to offer their ideas. We welcome new people and suggestions. Any questions? Contact Millie Danielson at [milleed@umich.edu](mailto:milleed@umich.edu) or 663-9881.



**Compilation of Committee Memberships:** One of President Norman's initiatives this year is to compile a list of the members for each committee within the Club. The schedule for this undertaking calls for the work to be complete by the end of September. Each Director and Officer will be responsible for ensuring the Committee Chairs in his or her area identify all the members serving on their committees. Each member serving on a committee should make sure his or her chair has their name on the list. Al Burdi was the first to respond with the list of members of the Setup Committee. Thanks, Al.

----- "Service above Self" -----