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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 October 12, 2005

**Speaker:** Robert Baker, RI Governor, District 6380

**Topic:** "The Four Avenues of Service"

We extend a hearty welcome to our District Governor Bob Baker who will share his visions on directions and work to be done for our District 6380 and Rotary International during this year. Among other inspirational messages, we will hear from Governor Bob that the many works of Rotarians world-wide are guided by our unswerving belief in the Object of Rotary which is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as the basis of worthy service to our communities and to peoples throughout the world. And, as we will hear, addressing the Object of Rotary is built upon a blueprint embracing "The Four Avenues of Service."

**Host/Introducer:** Neil Loney, Assistant District Governor    **Song Leader:** Jim Irwin    **Accompanist:** Maurita Holland

Also as a part of this meeting, there will be a ceremony to sign the charter for the new Interact Club at Pioneer High School.

## Looking Ahead

**October 19** (Wednesday) - Robert P. Kelch, M.D., UM Executive Vice-President for Medical Affairs, "The UM Health System: A Progress Report and Look toward the Future."

Note to board members: The board will meet at 7:30am at the Washtenaw United Way building

**October 26** (Wednesday) - Kevin Webber, General Manager-Engineering, Toyota Tech Center, USA, "Products Development for the Environment"

**November 2** (Wednesday) – Regular weekly meeting. Details coming soon.

**November 5** (Saturday) – Rotary/Rotaract Bowling Outing from 1:00 to 3:00. Details and sign-up information later.

**November 9** (Wednesday) – Induction of New Members

**November 10** (Thursday) – The Rotary Foundation Gala, Novi Sheraton Hotel. Details are in an article below.

**November 10** (Thursday) – An evening at Performance Network organized by the Social Committee. Details are in an article below.

## News from the Meeting of October 5

Don't forget, next week we'll hear from district governor Bob Baker on "The Four Avenues of Service." Let's all be here to give him a good welcome.

Jim Cook reported that we netted \$53,800 from Family Fun Day, and even that fine total might not be all! He said we still

had two grant applications with the state, so that the total might not be final. Way to go, Rotarians. Jim thanked all who worked on the event, singling out Markey Butler in particular for her role in making the event a success.



Congratulations to Sang Nam for his second Paul Harris Fellow award. We appreciate his continuing contributions to the club.

We heard from our three Junior Rotarians from Huron High: Damian Chatman, Payal Attawala and Jason Fernandez (left to right in the photos).

See details in the Harpoon if you're interested in working to aid victims of the hurricane down South. Note: here are two links from last week's edition: Specific information is available on the District 6200 website at <http://www.rotary6200.org>. For a larger overview of Rotary-related response to the recent hurricanes, go to <http://www.rotary.org/programs/wcs/disaster/reliefforts.html>.



John Rasmussen was thanked by President Norman for hosting a lunch for the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars.

Thursday, November 10 is the date for The Rotary Foundation dinner. All are welcome to attend. Details are in an article below.

Joanne Pierson and Griff McDonald introduced Lefiest Galimore, CEO of the Family Learning Institute, as part of our series of getting to know local non-profits. FLI helps kids for whom basic learning takes longer. Lefiest invited all to visit the facility at 1954 S. Industrial Highway. Note: You can also visit their website at <http://www.familylearninginstitute.org/>.

Lefiest Galimore

## Notes from the Program of October 5



Lynn Rivers, former congresswoman, spoke on "lawmaking in today's America: The good, the bad and the really ugly!" She cited results of a PEW study that showed a deep divide in this country on public issues and public attitudes toward Congress. For example, the study showed people disliked what they perceived as fighting – too much partisanship – while also disliking compromise, or what they saw as "selling out" to special interests.

People who were interviewed also expressed vary opinions on how we should finance candidates. People didn't want PACs, they didn't want self-financed campaigns, and they didn't want government-run campaigns. So what are they left with?

They didn't like pork barrel spending, but they wonder why their local congressperson is not bringing home the bacon, which often translates to jobs. Lynn also said people want voting done quickly, yet they also want it done carefully.

Negative campaigning? People decry it, but elections show that it works, Lynn cited Bob Dole in 1996 who refused to go negative on Bill Clinton to the detriment of his own campaign.

Lynn addressed how debate takes place in Congress. "It's manipulated by the leadership of both parties. The majority party decides what amendments may be allowed, what arguments may be made, etc." People also dislike the perks that go with holding a congressional seat. Congress gets around the pay raise issue by terming them cost of living allowances; during her eight-year tenure in office, Lynn says she turned back to the Treasury all of her pay raises.

Speaking from experience, she said those of her former colleagues who hold office are in constant demand to attend events. To a constituent who once said Lynn must be "on vacation again" to have coffees in her district, Lynn said "if I were on vacation, would I be having coffee with you?"

Lynn urged us to communicate our views to our representatives. "After 230 years, the system still works pretty well," she said, but there are "glitches." What is it you expect your representative to do, she asked. She said we all need to become more involved, that the thoughtful, articulate letter or e-mail is more persuasive to a member of Congress than stacks of letters in an organized campaign.

What did she enjoy most in Congress? "It's a phenomenal job and I loved the coffee hours, with people talking about government."

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 six guests and were also joined by Amine Tourki of the Ann Arbor Rotaract Club. He is their liaison to us and will be attending our meetings regularly.

## Other Notes of Interest

**Birthdays:** October 11 – Bob Moenart, October 12 – Carl Schmolt

**Make-up Cards:** Roger Fraser (Blaine/Ham Lake MN) and Jack Walker (Damariscotta-Newcastle ME)

**Some Like it Hot!:** One of the topics at our meeting with the Union staff last spring was the idea of having a hot entrée on occasion. Our first day for this experiment will be this week, in conjunction with DG Bob Baker's visit. If you wish to enjoy the full meal, please plan on bringing \$9.00 rather than the usual \$7.00. The prices for the other meal/beverage options will be unchanged. If you have any comments on this arrangement, please contact John White at 662-1734 or [jtwhite@umich.edu](mailto:jtwhite@umich.edu).



**Social Committee Plans a Night at the Theater:** The annual Performance Network Pre-Performance Event is scheduled for Thursday, November 10th. The play, "Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol" will be followed by a reception in the lobby for Rotary members, cast, and staff. Refreshments will be provided by the Social Committee. Tickets (\$10 each) will be available from Millie Danielson at our weekly meetings beginning Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Rotary District 6380 Gala Coming Up:** Here are excerpts from a message from the District:

"Greetings, Fellow Rotarians, It is not too early to mark your calendars and make your plans to attend The Rotary Foundation Gala to be held at the Novi Sheraton Hotel on November 10, 2005. This promises to be an outstanding event in YOUR Rotary life! One you should NOT miss--especially if you have NEVER attended any District 6380 function. Yes!! There IS Rotary beyond the local club!

Here you will enjoy a fabulous dinner, meet and mingle with the District leadership, and experience fun and fellowship with fellow Rotarians from all of 6380. Awesome!! You will also hear about the many projects TRF supports---Group Study Exchanges, Ambassadorial Scholarships, Rotary Centers for International Studies (Peace Scholars), Matching Grants, and PolioPlus, to name a few.

And, best of all, the featured speaker that night will be Carolyn Jones--the first female Rotarian to become a trustee of The Rotary Foundation. Carolyn is a Past District Governor of 5010 which includes Alaska, USA; Yukon Territory, Canada; and Russia, east of the Ural Mountains. She was an assistant Attorney General for the State of Alaska; and she has served Rotary in numerous positions. Many in our District have already had the good fortune to meet and work with Carolyn--now you have the opportunity to meet and greet this very dynamic lady and be inspired by her words....she is a VERY engaging speaker." p.s. An interview with Carolyn is on page 41 in the July 2005 Rotarian magazine.

Note: You can learn more about this event, and even sign up on-line, by going to the district website at

<http://www.rotary6380.com> or directly to the event's page at

[http://www.clubrunner.ca/dprg/dxhome/dxeventstab/\\_eventitem.aspx?did=6380&index=592&linkcat=5&dir=f&tail=0](http://www.clubrunner.ca/dprg/dxhome/dxeventstab/_eventitem.aspx?did=6380&index=592&linkcat=5&dir=f&tail=0)

**Coming Soon - The "Every Rotarian, Every Year" Initiative:** November is the month for the kickoff of this program for The Rotary Foundation. Details will be coming later but if you would like to know now where you stand with respect to achievement of your first or next Paul Harris Award, see Downs Herold or John White at a meeting, call 662-1734 or email your request to [a2rotary@comcast.net](mailto:a2rotary@comcast.net).

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