



Rotary Club of Ann Arbor for 2005-2006

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

The Rotary Club of Ann Arbor sponsors the [U-M Rotaract Club](#) and the Interact Clubs at [Huron](#) and [Pioneer](#) High Schools
"Harpoon" is the weekly newsletter of the Rotary Club of Ann Arbor. Contact the club to subscribe by email.
Copies of recent editions are available online at <http://annarborrotary.org/harpoon.htm>

Special News



The Club has just learned that Harm Buning, a member since 1992, passed away on Friday, May 12. He was 83. Details should be forthcoming shortly. Scott Westerman, a close friend for over 50 years, will speak about Harm at Wednesday's meeting. A full obituary and service information will appear soon in the Ann Arbor News, likely both in the print edition and the on-line version at <http://www.legacy.com/annarbor/LegacyHome.asp>. Our thoughts and condolences are with Harm's family and friends at this sad time.

The Program for May 17, 2006

Speaker: Joanne M. Pierson, Associate Director, U-M Center for Development of Language and Literacy

Topic: "The Residential Aphasia Program at the University of Michigan"

The UM Residential Aphasia Program (RAP) is the only program of its kind in the country. The RAP provides intensive speech-language therapy to adults with aphasia, the language disorder that results from brain injury, most typically stroke. Fellow Rotarian Joanne Marttila Pierson will introduce us to the RAP, which draws people from all over the United States and has been singled out in the literature for its excellence.

Host/Introducer: Agnes Reading

Song Leader: David Keosaian

Accompanist: Deanna Relyea

Looking Ahead

May 19 (Friday evening) – Spring Fling at Barton Hills Country Club. Details are contained in the flyer available at the weekly meetings or on-line at <http://annarborrotary.org/SpringFlingFlyer2006.pdf>

May 24 (Wednesday) – Speaker: Jan Garfinckle, Partner, Aboretum Ventures and President of the Michigan Venture Capital Association will speak on, "Venture Capital's Role in Michigan's 21st Century Economy." This meeting will also feature a visit by our District Governor and the presentation of our most recent class of Paul Harris Fellows

May 31 (Wednesday) – Former Ann Arbor Rotarian (and our first female president) Elaine Didier, Director of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum will present, "The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum: A National Treasure"

Note: Details on the luncheon programs listed above can be found at <http://annarborrotary.org/may.htm>.

June 7 (Wednesday) – Our speaker will be fellow Rotarian Robb Woulfe revealing details of this year's Summer Festival. This date is also the deadline to nominate potential new members. More information and the associated forms are available in a pocket at the bottom of the badge board or on-line at <http://annarborrotary.org/facts.htm>. Agnes Reading is the person to

contact.

News from the Meeting of May 10

Former member Bob Hughes died Tuesday. He was a former director of U-M housing and longtime secretary of Rotary. A moment of silence was held in Bob's memory. In happier news, we can report that Herb Amster has returned home from hospital.



Chris Roberts

Terry Linden gave us a report on the most recent tree planting and said the last of the tree plantings would be May 13 at S. Maple Park.

Millie Danielson said the Spring Fling had sold 80 tickets so far. The event, set for May 19 at Barton Hills, is from 6-8 p.m. at \$25/person. See Millie if you plan to attend this fun time for Rotarians.

As part of our get to know your nonprofits, Brad Bowersox introduced Chris Roberts, executive director of Washtenaw Literacy (<http://www.washtenawliteracy.org/>). Chris said about 12 percent of Washtenaw County residents are at a low literacy level. Washtenaw Literacy has been in existence for 35 years. Chris thanked Rotary for our support of Washtenaw Literacy programs and its corps of 600 volunteers.

Notes from the Program of May 10

Beth Fitzsimmons introduced Josie Parker, director of the Ann Arbor District Library (<http://www.aadl.org>), who spoke on the future of that valued community institution. Begun about 140 years ago, the library separated from the Ann Arbor Public Schools in 1995. At that time the public supported a millage of 2 mills "in perpetuity."



Josie Parker

"We have more visitors per year than the Big House," Josie said in a playful dig at Athletic Director Bill Martin. Four million users are a lot of folks to pass through library doors. "We're doing very well, unlike other libraries in the state," Josie said. What's more, the parking lot at the downtown facility helps to generate economic growth. People park there "to buy tennis shoes, go to Borders, etc." Josie said.

She's proud of the new Mallett's Creek branch and Pittsfield branch, with a northeast replacement branch in the planning stage. "We're using our balance to fund the library and to build buildings," she said. The AADL is so successful financially it may push operating millage back.

The AADL suffered, but didn't lay off people, after a former employee stole funds. "We've added positions, built new branches, re-negotiated contracts with our employees and have a good medical care program," Josie said. The cost of a library card is \$150/year for non-residents, "less than the cost of lunch at Zingerman's" for local users.

In services, people, programs and uses of technology, Josie said, we're where it's at. "I'm so proud to be head of the AADL. It's super-special and still will be long after I'm gone."

The News and Notes this week were compiled by Harpoon Editor Don Faber. Fred Beutler provided the photos.

Meeting Statistics: Our reported attendance at this day's meeting was 132 members. We had one visiting Rotarian and one guest. The Community Allocations, Membership Development, Rotate your Food and High School Scholarship Committees met just before lunch. Overall, 32 members participated. Also reported was that a total of 17 Rotarians planted trees on May 6 and ten members of the Community Allocations Committee met on April 24.

Other Notes of Interest

Birthdays: May 14 – Larry Henkel and Len Stenger; May 15 - Ray Hunter; May 16 – Marsha Chamberlin and Agnes

Reading; May 17 – Liz Leidy and Milo White; May 18 – Al Bamsey, Peter Fayroian and Fritz Seyferth..

Make-up Cards from Roving Rotarians: Hal Flynn (Ann Arbor-North on May 11 and Flint on May 12), Maurita Holland (Manistique on April 24).

Visiting Rotarians: Markey Butler, a former member of our club and now part of the Rotary Club of Snowmass Village CO, was our only visiting Rotarian.

Rotarians in the News [Compiled by Walt Helmreich]: Dale Berry, whose Huron Valley Ambulance was recognized as the largest supporter of the county communication ballot item which was approved by the voters; Molly Dobson, widow of longtime Rotarian Bill Dobson and mother of Steve Dobson, who was recognized for her many community activities; Josie Parker, who took part in the Ann Arbor Book Festival (and was our speaker today); and Mark Ouimet, who figures in speculation as a possible running mate for GOP gubernatorial candidate Dick DeVos.

New Members Sought for the Class of July 12 [from Agnes Reading]: The Membership Development Committee is accepting nominations through Wednesday, June 7. Information about Membership in the Club, its advantages and responsibilities, is posted on the Club website home page under Membership Guidelines. Please thoughtfully review this information and recognize your commitment as a sponsor when you present a candidate. Completed nomination forms can be given to John White or emailed to Agnes Reading at areading@admi-usa.com. More information and the associated forms are available in a pocket at the bottom of the badge board or on-line at <http://annarborrotary.org/facts.htm>.

Note: Here are a few relevant statistics: Our club membership now stands at 305. It was 292 a year ago and 275 five years ago. A total 75 Rotarians have been sponsors for the 68 new members we have taken in over the last two years. Most active in sponsorships during that period are Ken Fischer and Mark Ouimet, each with six members. Close behind are Jerry Prescott and Paul Glendon with five. Ingrid Sheldon and Brandt Coultas each have four.

Special Meeting Opportunity [from Rick Perry, President of the Farmington Rotary]:

Farmington Rotary will be having a special program on Tuesday evening, May 30 (the day after Memorial Day).



Farmington Rotary Charter member Bill Bliss will be giving a program on his service in World War II. Bill was part of the D-Day Invasion and landed on Utah Beach in the Normandy invasion with the forces of General Patton's 3rd Armor Division. Bill was with Ordnance Supply and supported the 3rd Armor in their historic mission through France, the Battle of the Bulge and into Luxembourg before entering Germany. Bill will have pictures and video footage of his tour of duty, which lasted through the Nazi surrender in May of 1945, and afterwards in Augsburg. Please join us for this special evening. We will be meeting at Ginopolis Restaurant (12 Mile & Middlebelt) on Tuesday, May 30 at 6:00 pm. Dinner is \$20.

Rotarians, spouses, children and guests are all welcome to attend this event. Contact Rick at rperry@transatlanticinc.com to make reservations. More complete information is on the District 6380 website (see next article).

District 6380 News: The monthly newsletter for May is now on-line at <http://rotary6380.org/>. New info on the site includes the date of the 2006 Foundation Gala (November 9) and an article on the Birmingham Rotary Club. Also posted there is the May District 6380 Newsletter. Articles include a review of the District Conference, with a transcription of closing comments that were (in error, apparently) attributed to George Carlin, a story about a hard-charging 86 year old from the Berkley Club and an article about the International Fellowship of Rotarians Home Exchange.

Host Families Needed for Rotary Youth Exchange Participants: Nelson Edwards, Inbound Chair RYE, has just received the packet for Kozue Imai, a 16 year old female from Japan. Kozue will be arriving in our District in August 2006. He still has the packets for Mrunmayee Gajare, a 16 year old female from India and Altynai Abdykadirova a 16 year old female from Kyrgyzstan. If any Rotary family is interested in hosting any of these students, please contact him as soon as possible. You can reach Nelson at 517-223-9988 or eyecare@cablespeed.com.



Tree Planting Update: On May 6, a total of 25 Rotarians, family members and guests planted a total of 56 trees. Unfortunately, the planting session scheduled for May 13 at South Maple Park had to be postponed due to the recent wet weather. A new date to complete our spring planting activity will be announced shortly. Once that date is set, please contact John Laird to offer your services. See him at a meeting, call him at 971-4440 or send an email to mmlaird@comcast.net.

The Obituary for Bob Hughes [Published in the Ann Arbor News on mlive.com on 5/12/2006]:

Hughes, Robert Charles Gulliver, MI and Port Richey, FL (formerly of Ann Arbor)

Robert Charles Hughes, a former University of Michigan housing and development director who, in the decade since his retirement, presided over one of Michigan's most elegant bed & breakfasts, died May 9 in Florida after a brief illness. He was 69.



As he had for 32 years at U-M, shepherding projects, mentoring students and advising the Men's Glee Club, Bob reveled in his role as innkeeper, welcoming guests from many countries to Thistledowne at Seul Choix, on Lake Michigan near Gulliver, in the Upper Peninsula. Born in Flint, Bob graduated from U-M in 1958 with a B.A. in Psychology, obtaining a Master's in Education in 1960. After a brief tenure as a guidance counselor, he joined the UM Housing Division in 1964 as South Quad Director. In 1978, he was named Director of Housing, a position he held until 1993, when he was named Executive Director of Development for Student Affairs. He retired three years later, setting off to build Thistledowne with the pride and confidence of a person who had seen two major UM projects to completion: the Northwood V Housing complex and the Family Housing Community Center, both on North Campus.

Warm and engaging, Bob was sincerely interested in other people, befriending every one from grocery clerks to the postmaster in tiny Gulliver. He cared about their success, offering advice and encouragement to those in need of a sounding board. As faculty advisor to the U-M Men's Glee Club in the 1990s, Bob helped club members with everything from academics to financial aid and accompanied the club on tours to Russia and South America. Bob also formed lasting friendships with many of the U-M football and basketball players he mentored. In addition he served as Secretary of the Ann Arbor Rotary Club for many years, and was accorded the distinction as a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International. Bob loved to travel and visited more than 40 countries.

He also loved food, wine, classical music and the Michigan Wolverines and was a talented cook. He shared his sophisticated hospitality with family, friends and guests, for whom Thistledowne will always conjure fond memories.

Bob is survived by his parents, Halley and Mary Louise Hughes; a son, Robert Jr., a daughter, Jeannette Vrieland and her husband Brian; two brothers and their wives, Richard and Susanne and James and Peg; two grandchildren, Jessalyn and Alicia Vrieland; several nieces, nephews and other relatives and many friends, as well as former wife Jane. A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. June 10 at the Michigan League, Ann Arbor.

Note: Carl Smith, current faculty advisor to the Glee Club, has announced that the Glee Club will be singing at the service and that current members and alumni are being invited.

“Service above Self”