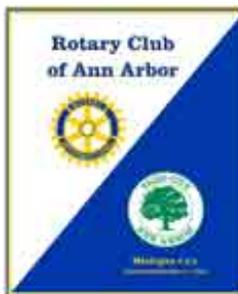


Note to email subscribers: If this newsletter does not display properly on your computer, you may wish to view and/or download the .pdf version from the Club website at <http://annarborrotary.org/harpoon.shtml>.



Rotary Club of Ann Arbor for 2006-2007

Ingrid B. Sheldon, President
Alphonse R. Burdi, Vice President and President Elect
J. Downs Herold, Secretary
John G. Ackenhusen, Club Treasurer
David J. Keosain, Endowment Treasurer
Norman G. Herbert, Past President
David B. Williams, Sergeant at Arms

Nishta Bhatia, Director
Louis M. Callaway, Jr., Director
Barbara J. Debrodt, Director
Ian T. Glassford, Director
Debra Polich, Director
Peter S. Wright, Director
John T. White III, Club Administrator
Donald J. Faber, Harpoon Editor

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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 as .pdf files at <http://annarborrotary.org/harpoon.shtml>

The Program for Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Special Event: "Our Annual Club Assembly"

Presiding: Ingrid Sheldon, President 2006-07, Rotary Club of Ann Arbor

This is an especially important meeting for the Club. We will formally elect a new President-elect, Secretary, Treasurer and three Directors. The past year has been full with a number of successful projects and the launching of some very exciting service initiatives. Many of these will be highlighted at the assembly. This annual club assembly is yet another opportunity for members to stay informed and to take part in positioning our Club for continued success throughout the 2007 year and beyond! It's our future...be there! Consider bringing a guest to become more informed about Rotary and our Ann Arbor club. Note: the slate of officers and directors can be found in an article later in this newsletter.

Song Leader: Don Devine **Accompanist:** Deanna Relyea

Looking Ahead



A window display at the Art Center

December 10 (Sunday afternoon) – Our Club's cultural event for December will be a Holiday Exhibit and Reception at the Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. There is no charge - Enjoy the party and the Art Center. The event features champagne, live jazz, shopping (with a 10% discount) and, for the creatively inclined, the opportunity to make a dream catcher!

December 13 (Wednesday noon) – The Pioneer Choir will entertain us. Plan to bring a guest for this festive meeting. Note: We will meet in the Union Ballroom for this event. The price for the full buffet this day will be \$10.50.

December 20 and 27 – No meetings. Best Wishes for a safe and joyous Holiday Season. See you on January 3.

Note: Details on the luncheon programs for December will soon be on the website at <http://annarborrotary.org/december.shtml>. Paper copies will also be available on the dining tables at the November 29 meeting.

News from the Meeting of November 29, 2006

A last-minute substitute for the temporarily “voiceless” Terry Foster was Al Storey, of whom one member was heard to say, “what’s Al doing up there as song leader?” Also overheard was “laryngitis should NEVER happen to Terry Foster.” ‘Nuff said; Rotarians cemented their reputation as fine singers.

Be sure to check out coming attractions and remember there are two weeks in December when there are no meetings. Use that time to email a Rotarian and share season’s greetings.

We had a moment of silence for longtime former member Jay Bolt, who died at the age of 95.

Marsha Chamberlin reminded us of the Christmas social Dec. 10 at the Ann Arbor Art Center, 5-8 p.m. Food, music, art works and the scintillating company of fellow Rotarians – can you top those ingredients for a fine time?

Financial obligations don’t go away. Remember that your 2007 Community Service Assessment is due Dec. 31, 2006. And as far as The Rotary Foundation is concerned, we are at 105 donors for a total of about \$14,000 so we still have a way to go to reach our goal.

Notes from the Program of November 29, 2006

Marsha Chamberlin introduced Deb Polich, president and CEO of Artrain, USA, speaking on the topic “Artrain USA – from Ann Arbor to Washington, D.C. to Nenana, Alaska.” We watched a short video on Artrain, now 35 years old, before Deb took over the speaker’s podium. Deb became director in 1993, the same year Artrain moved to its NEW Center site. Artrain’s first national tour was in 1973.



Deb Polich

“We’re blessed to live in this community,” Deb said, “with its several arts communities. What we take for granted in the arts is what we take to others via Artrain.” Deb is especially proud of Artrain’s most recent honor – that of being named an American Masterpiece by the National Endowment for the Arts for Artrain’s numerous programs and activities. In addition, the Institute for Museum and Library Services gave Artrain its National Service Award for Museum with an award of \$10,000, complete with a White House ceremony presided over by Laura Bush.

Deb grew Artrain from a budget of \$535,000 to a budget of \$1.6 million today. A five-car rail consist has three gallery cars, an artist’s studio and a gift shop car. Artrain’s core programs include exhibitions, art tours and art education. Over the years, it has logged 3.17 million visitors in more than 800 communities across the U.S. Annually, Artrain visits 20-25 cities, with each stay averaging about one week.

“Our vision,” said Deb, “is that everybody should have access to quality arts programs. We want to enrich lives and build communities through the arts.” To that end, Artrain has a board of directors, staff, donors and sponsors, along with volunteer guides and artists. It features such lender as the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Smithsonian Institution. Its fall of 2006 trip to Alaska took two years of planning, but it paid off with more than 9,000 visitors in six Alaska cities.

Artrain’s funders include such big foundations as Rockefeller, Ford, Kellogg and Kresge. But funding has declined since 9/11, same as with all other nonprofits. “We need adequate funding,” said Deb. The future of Artrain may include a fleet of trucks that looks like a train. “The railroads have been good to us,” said Deb, “but they’re increasingly busy and they have trouble fitting Artrain’s schedule to their own.” A truck system would give Artrain more flexibility. And with the demand for programs increasing, it looks like the future of Artrain is assured. It certainly isn’t lacking for outstanding leadership.

The News and Notes were reported by Don Faber, Harpoon editor. Fred Beutler provided the photograph of Deb.

Meeting Statistics: Our reported attendance at this day’s meeting was 148 members. We also had three guests and one visiting Rotarian (Dick Rosenfeld of Jackson. The second of two Committee Showcases was held as were two committee meetings. The count on the participants in these gatherings will be totaled and reported in the next Harpoon.

Other Notes of Interest

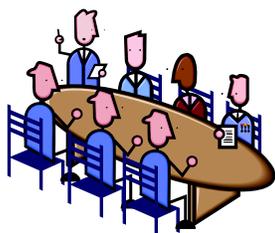
Birthdays: December 3 – Dick Carlisle and Jerry Hodge; December 4 – Abbie Vander Meulen and Claire Foley; December 8 – Hal Flynn; December 9 – Ray Fitzgerald

Make-up Cards from Roving Rotarians: Brad Bowersox (Ann Arbor North on October 9 and Saline on October 16) and Verna McDaniel (Ypsilanti on November 27).

Attendance Report to the District: At the end of November, our club reported the addition of nine members and the loss of one member (Jefferson Porter). We finished the month with a total of 308 active members and three honorary members. Our attendance for the five meetings averaged 57%.



Five Star Attendees for November: The following dedicated members attended each of the five luncheon meetings in November: John Atwater, Bernie Bedell, Lou Callaway, Chuck Cares, Wayne Colquitt, Lee Danielson, Millie Danielson, Robben Fleming, Norman Herbert, Gene Ingram, Karen Kerry, Dave Krehbiel, Mike Marich, Jim Martin, Dave McDowell, Ted McLogan, Sang Nam, Jan Newman, Ingrid Sheldon, Burt Voss, Jack Walker, Scott Westerman and Dave Williams. A related note of interest is that 64 members of our club (over 20%) have achieved perfect attendance since the start of the 2006-2007 year. This calculation includes credit for attendance at luncheon meetings, make-ups at other clubs, committee meetings and participation in various club service activities as Rotary Tutors and Tree Planting.



Slate of Officers and Directors for 2007-2008 (an update from the article in the Harpoon for the meeting of November 1): At the meeting of November 1, Norman Herbert, chair of the Nominating Committee, announced the following slate of nominees for election at the Club Assembly meeting on December 6, 2006:

For Vice President/President-Elect 2007-08 (President '08-09): Jim Cook.

For Club Secretary, 2007-08: Downs Herold.

For Club Treasurer, 2007-08: John Ackenhusen.

For three Director positions, term of office July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2009: Wayne Colquitt,

Maurita Holland, and Josie Parker.

At the time of the announcement, no additional nominations for any of these positions were made from the floor, as allowed in the Club Bylaws. Thus, the nominations were declared closed and the Committee's slate will be elected by acclamation on December 6.

Tree Planting Project Results in another Donation: After our tree planting session at Brookside Park, the Club received a donation of \$150 and a thank-you note from an appreciative Brookside Neighborhood Association. This check was the second donation from a beneficiary of our work.



Rotarians in the News: Ann Arbor City Administrator and fellow Rotarian Roger Fraser was profiled in a feature story entitled, "Agent of Change," in the December issue of the Ann Arbor Observer. The article by reporter Eve Silberman was very positive about his past accomplishments and his four and a half years as City Administrator here. She also referred to our Club as "prestigious."

On page 29 in the same edition of the Observer is a photo of President Ingrid "jamming" with Jeff Daniels at one of his Purple Rose shows.

Updates on Two New District 6380 Clubs [adapted from a note by DG Gerry Jackson]: The Lake Orion Sunrise Rotary Club (Provisional) has changed its meeting date and location. They now meet at 7:15 a.m. on Thursday Mornings at CJ's Village Cafe at 21 W. Flint Street in downtown Lake Orion. One of their initial efforts is the development of a Strive Program at Lake Orion High School.

The Clinton Township Sunrise Rotary Club (not quite yet provisional) is about to start meeting. They will be holding two upcoming informational meetings: the first at 7:30 a.m. on Thursday morning, December 14, 2006 and the second at 7:30 a.m. on Thursday morning, January 11, 2007. Prospective members are encouraged to attend either or both of these two meetings.

Gerry suggests that identifying potential members for each of these two new Rotary venues should be a priority and

responsibility of all Rotarians in our district. If you have friends or business associates in either Lake Orion or Clinton Township and you would consider them worthy of the opportunity to get in on the ground floor of a good thing, please contact Jim Gilmore (District Membership Chair) at jgilmore@cobhall.com.

Community Services Assessments Due in December (reprinted from last week as a reminder): One of the financial obligations of membership in our club is the annual donation to the Ann Arbor Rotary Endowment. The amount of \$170 for calendar year 2007 has been established by the Board and is due by the end of this calendar year. You were billed for this amount on the #3 invoice of the 1-2-3 bill you received in July. If you have misplaced this invoice, simply make out a check for \$170 to “Ann Arbor Rotary Endowment” and give it to Downs or John at a meeting or mail it to the club address. The Ann Arbor Rotary Endowment is a 501(c)(3) organization so your donation is likely to be tax-deductible. Making your payment by the end of 2006 will allow it to be included in this year’s tax return. Thanks to all of you who have already submitted your check.



Also, please remember that the “Every Rotarian – Every Year” campaign is going on as you consider your plans for donations in the 2006 tax year.



Links of Interest: Below is a list of links to various websites that will be of interest to Rotarians.

- **Rotary International:** <http://rotary.org/>. The RI home page has links to About Rotary, The Rotary Foundation, Club Locator and Member Access. Registration information for the Annual Convention in Salt Lake City from June 17-29 is on-line at: <http://rotary.org/events/conventions/2007/index.html>.
- **Zone 28:** <http://www.zones27-28.org/>. The zone level is between RI and the district. We are part of a zone with 15 districts covering the lower peninsula of Michigan, the upper parts of Indiana and Ohio and even a bit of Pennsylvania and New York.
- **District 6380:** <http://rotary6380.org/>. This is the website for our district. District 6380 covers a total of 50 clubs in the counties of Washtenaw, Livingston, Oakland, Macomb and Kent (in Ontario). The district’s monthly newsletter as well as individual articles of district-wide interest are also posted here.
- **Rotary Club of Ann Arbor:** <http://annarborrotary.org/>. This is our Club’s own website. It contains a great deal of background material and current information such as the descriptions of upcoming programs and an archive of current and past Harpoons.

“Lead the Way”