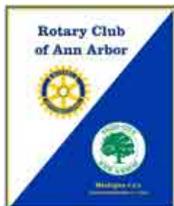


Harpoon for the Meeting of December 5, 2007

Note to email subscribers: If this newsletter does not display properly or should you wish to print a copy, the .pdf (Adobe Acrobat) version is posted on the Club website at <http://annarborrotary.org/harpoon.shtml>. Past copies are also available there.



Rotary Club of Ann Arbor for 2007-2008

Alphonse R. Burdi, President
James W. Cook, VP and President Elect
J. Downs Herold, Secretary
John G. Ackenhusen, Club Treasurer
David J. Keosaian, Endowment Treasurer
Ingrid B. Sheldon, Past President
David B. Williams, Sergeant at Arms

Louis M. Callaway, Jr., Director [2008]
Wayne N. Colquitt, Director [2009]
Barbara J. Debrodt, Director [2008]
Maurita P. Holland, Director [2009]
Josie B. Parker, Director [2009]
Peter S. Wright, Director [2008]
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>

December is "Family Month" month on the Rotary calendar.

The Program for Wednesday, December 5, 2007

CLUB ASSEMBLY - President Al and other Club Leaders

Topics: "We Can Do It" . . . and here's how we've been doing it!

We will elect new Club Directors (for 2008-10) Mark Foster, Karen Kerry and Len Stenger and President-Nominee Lou Callaway, and reelect Secretary and Treasurer Downs Herold and John Ackenhusen (absent nominations from the floor, of course) at this annual Ann Arbor Rotary Club event. But that will be just the beginning of President Al's version of our Club Assembly, during which we will be reminded of all it means to be an Ann Arbor Rotarian and what our committees have been and will be doing this year.

Song Leader: Henry Johnson

Accompanist: Joan Knoertzer

Looking Ahead

December 12 (Wednesday noon in the Ballroom) - Ken Westerman and the Pioneer High School Choirs. Plan to bring a guest and a few extra bucks for a slightly expanded menu.

December 16 (Sunday from 5:00pm to 7:00pm) – Cultural Sampler Series: Tour and Holiday Market at the Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Washington. Enjoy wine, munchies and a 10% discount on purchases.

December 19 (Wednesday noon) - U-M President Mary Sue Coleman will speak to us

December 26 and January 2 (no luncheon meetings) –Enjoy the holiday season with family and friends

January 9, 2008 (Wednesday noon) – our normal luncheon meetings resume

The complete schedule for December luncheons is on-line at <http://annarborrotary.org/december.shtml>.

News from the Meeting of November 28, 2007

We welcomed back Jesse Bernstein, fully recovered and in good health.

Our Rotarians in the news, as reported by Gae Miller, included Susan Lackey, Mary Jo Callan, Bettye Elkins, Dan Stewart, Chris McMullen and Marsha Chamberlin.

Mark Foster introduced Junior Rotarians Fiona Chaniness of Greenhills High School and Sevde Felek of Community High. We will hear from them next week.

The buzz about Michigan's prospective football coach was reported from the podium in auto-talk: Should he be a mini-Cooper or another Carr with Les Miles?

Bill Dunifon introduced Linda Zummer who briefed us on the Washtenaw Elementary Science Olympiad. WESO aims to improve the quality of science education and increase student interest in science. WESO is the largest elementary science Olympiad in Michigan and "perhaps in the nation," Linda said. About 1,000 elementary students are involved in an organization that is 100 percent staffed by volunteers.

Notes from the Meeting of November 28, 2007



Eric Booth makes a point

Ken Fischer introduced Eric Booth, nationally known actor, author and educator, speaking on "Transforming Community through Creativity." Eric said John Dewey, asked to define aesthetics, came up with "the opposite of aesthetics is anesthetic." Eric said the arts are "not peripheral in our lives, but that we're ineffective in tapping the precious resource of creativity." Arts education is traditionally disempowered and underfunded. He said our young leaders should be steeped in literacy, science and creativity. He said "art happens outside of what we already know, it expands our sense of what the world might be." He said his goal is "a community that makes a contribution to a creativity plan" and that nurtures creativity. Eric asked us: "What transforms your day from a good day to a GREAT day?" The answer is when we get creatively

engaged in something that pleases us intensely.

Eric left us with this quote: "People are shaped by what they extend themselves into. We must be very careful with the objects we present to ourselves and to our children because we are changed by them. Art lends shape to passion and to yearning. Art is the best container for yearning because it is so rich, so human, so satisfying on so many levels. Art gives serious outer shape to serious inner yearning. And if these yearnings are informed by less rich objects, they will go to sleep, will die, or will eventually express themselves in the harmful symptoms of search that fill the pages of the daily newspaper." – Eric Booth, from "The Everyday Work of Art," published by [iUniverse.com](http://www.iuniverse.com). It is available on-line at http://www.iuniverse.com/bookstore/book_detail.asp?isbn=0-595-19380-3

Note: For information on an "art and culture initiative" in Washtenaw County, see an article later in this newsletter.

President Al's "Thought for the Day" comes from Pope John Paul II (not a Rotarian): "Man creates culture and through culture creates himself!"

The News and Notes were compiled by Don Faber, Harpoon editor. Fred Beutler provided the photographs.

Meeting Statistics: Our reported attendance at today's luncheon meeting was 153 members, one of the largest crowds in recent memory. We also had sixteen guests and one visiting Rotarian (Laurie Baumer of Lansing) and two U-M Rotaractors (Julie Davidson and Jamie Walsh). Six members of the Rotaract Committee met before lunch. Also reported this week was the list of 36 Rotarians (out of a total of over 50 persons) who planted trees on November 10 and the 127 tutoring sessions so far this school year at Burns Park and Angell schools. Rotarians conducted 94 of these sessions. Most of those remaining were conducted by spouses.

Other Notes of Interest

Birthdays: December 3 – Dick Carlisle and Jerry Hodge; December 4 – Claire Foley; December 8 – Hal Flynn.

Make-up Cards from Roving Rotarians: Jesse Bernstein (Ann Arbor North on November 15); Maurita Holland (Manistique on November 5 and November 26); Mark Ouimet (Chelsea on November 13, Dexter on November 15 and Chelsea on November 27); Bob Swistock (Northville on October 16, Hilton Head Island – Sunset on October 29 and Bluffton SC on November 1).

PolioPlus



Rotary International

Rotary International Receives Major Gift on November 26: Here is a letter to all Rotarians from RI President Wilf Wilkinson and TRF Chairman Robert Scott:

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

This is a historic day for Rotary. It is our great pleasure to inform you of a new partnership between Rotary International and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation that will provide a much needed \$200 million in support of our top goal of a polio-free world.

The Gates Foundation has awarded The Rotary Foundation a challenge grant of \$100 million, which Rotary will match, dollar for dollar, over three years. This is the largest single grant ever given to a volunteer service organization and represents a tremendous validation of the approach and success of our PolioPlus program. This partnership comes at a critical juncture for the polio eradication initiative, which needs an infusion of funds to reach the eradication goal. For this reason, the initial \$100 million will be distributed by The Rotary Foundation through grants to the World Health Organization and UNICEF in direct support of polio immunization activities in 2008.

Your participation in this effort is crucial to making it a success. The Rotary International Board of Directors and the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation have unanimously agreed to accept this challenge grant to ensure the success of the PolioPlus program. We feel confident that this extraordinary commitment from the Gates Foundation and Rotary will serve as a catalyst for further donations from others to help us realize the dream of a polio-free world.

In 1985, we promised every child a world free from the threat of polio, and we are almost there. This funding agreement between Rotary and the Gates Foundation is a huge step forward, bringing us even closer to our goal. Success is our only option.

More information about this extraordinary gift is on-line at:

http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/071120_news_gannounce.aspx



Every Rotarian, Every Year Campaign Update: Thanks to those of you who are keeping the stream of checks coming in. They are being logged in here and then sent along to The Rotary Foundation. Donors will receive a tax letter directly from TRF. So far, 134 members have made a donation. Seventeen Paul Harris Fellowships have been earned and seven of these are first-timers. The actual awards will be made at a meeting in the spring.

Community Services Assessments are Coming Up: On your 1-2-3 bill from last July, Invoice #1 was for your dues, #2 invited you to make a donation to The Rotary Foundation and #3 was for your Community Services Assessment (CSA). While your donation to TRF is elective and can be made at anytime, your CSA is an obligation of membership and is due by the end of December. The amount is \$170. Please make your check payable to “Ann Arbor Rotary Endowment” and mail it to the Club address or give it to Downs Herold or John White at an upcoming meeting. Thanks to the hundred or so members who have already paid.



November Report to the District: During the month, we inducted six new members to bring our total to 312 which includes three honoraries. Our reported attendance level was 50%.

On-line Member Directory Updated: Thanks to webmaster Dan Romanchik, our on-line membership directory has been updated to include our November class of new members and the changes that have been submitted by current members. Please take a look at your listing under Member Directory on the home page of www.annarborrotary.org (you will need to enter our Username and password) to make sure it is correct and report any needed changes to John White at administrator@annarborrotary.org. If your photo is in black-and-white, please submit a recent color photo or be ready for the announcement of the next time when we will be taking new photos.

Thanks.



Rotary Club of Ann Arbor North Celebrates 40 Years: On Thursday, December 6, the Rotary Club of Ann Arbor North will hold a buffet dinner at the Holiday Inn North Campus. All Rotarians and their guests are invited to join with club members in an evening of fellowship, sharing memories and celebrating Rotary. The social hour begins at 6:00pm with dinner at 7:00. The cost is \$25 per person. Make your reservations with Peg Windsor at (734) 358-5581.



Members are Welcome to Attend Board Meetings: At its last meeting, the board determined that its normal monthly meetings were open to the membership. The meetings are held from 7:30am to 8:30am on the third Wednesday at the Washtenaw United Way Headquarters on Platt Road. The next meeting is December 19. Although all members are welcome, please contact John White in advance at administrator@annarborrotary.org if you are planning to attend so that we can arrange for enough seats and brew enough coffee.



Video Projector Notes: The Club's video projector is available for committee meetings and presentations during the luncheon meetings. Uses for other events are also possible. Dan Romanchik is the chair of the Audiovisual Committee and the one to contact to request that the unit be set up. Please try to give him at least a couple days notice.

Community & Culture: Creating a Plan for Washtenaw County: This close-to-home program is aligned with Eric Booth's broader message. It is a major initiative to build stronger communities by creating a plan in which arts and culture are integral elements in achieving goals we all share, such as preparing our youth for jobs in the 21st century, creating and maintaining vibrant downtowns and preserving our high quality of life. The fruit of this effort will be a five-year plan for cultural development in Washtenaw County along with the opportunity for participating communities to customize the county's plan to their own needs. The project includes three main components: 1) gathering data about our county's cultural assets and resident attitudes/interests in arts and culture; 2) identifying countywide cultural goals based on the data and writing action steps to achieve these goals; and 3) finalizing the countywide cultural plan and assisting participating communities to customize the plan, if they so desire. Fellow Rotarians Bob Guenzel and Deb Polich are two of the leaders in this effort. The project is coordinated by the Arts Alliance. For more information, contact Tamara Real, Director of the Arts Alliance at (734) 214-0112 or artsalliance@annarborchamber.org. If you would like to take part in the survey mentioned above, go to <http://www.a2artsalliance.org/survey.asp>.

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. One recent posting is about the 2008 Convention in Los Angeles now has its own website at <http://www.rotary2008.com>.



• **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 52 clubs in the counties of Washtenaw, Livingston, Oakland and Macomb in Michigan and Kent in Ontario. The district's monthly newsletter and other individual articles of district-wide interest are 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 a link to the website for the Russian visitors, Club brochure, current Annual Report, New Member Nomination Form, Committee Descriptions, synopses of upcoming programs and an archive of current and past Harpoons. Our club also sponsors the following Rotaract and Interact Clubs:

• **U-M Rotaract Club:** <http://www.umich.edu/~rotaract/>

• **Huron High Interact Club:** <http://www.aaps.k12.mi.us/huron.interact/home>

• **Pioneer High Interact Club:** <http://www.pioneerinteract.blogspot.com/>

“Rotary Shares”