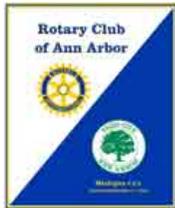


Harpoon for the Meeting of March 19, 2008

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**

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J. Downs Herold, Secretary  
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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>*

**March is "Literacy Month" on the Rotary calendar.**

## The Program for Wednesday, March 19, 2008

**Speaker:** Robert Mull, Ann Arbor Rotarian & TAP Member

**Topic:** The Taxpayer Advocacy Panel, Your Voice for a Better IRS

As tax return season looms, learn about a nationwide group of volunteers who advocate on your behalf to make the IRS more efficient and taxpayer friendly. Bob Mull, a Club member for the past several months and retired Ford executive, volunteered to serve on the Panel and after getting FBI clearance and jumping through other bureaucratic hoops has been doing so since last year. He will share his experiences as a member of this Federal Advisory Committee and discuss major tax administration issues.

**Host/introducer:** Joel Berger

**Song Leader:** Ingrid Sheldon

**Accompanist:** Deanna Relyea

## Looking Ahead

**March 26** (Wednesday at noon) - Ron Shapiro, attorney & author, will discuss, "The Art of Negotiation."

Full descriptions of the luncheon programs for March are on-line at: <http://annarborrotary.org/march.shtml>.  
Program details for the April meetings will be posted at the end of March.

**March 28** (Friday) - Community Services Grant Applications are due. The package is on-line from the home page of the Club website at <http://www.annarborrotary.org/>. The theme is "Helping Kids Succeed."

**March 30** (Sunday at 7:00pm) – The U-M Rotaract Club's Filipino Benefit Night. Rotarians and guests are welcome. For details, go to <http://uofmrotaract.wordpress.com/>.

**April 2** (Wednesday at noon) – Regular luncheon meeting. Speaker and topic to be announced shortly.

## News from the Meeting of March 12, 2008

We sang a rousing version of “Oh Canada” in honor of visiting district governor Audrey Chevalier and her husband, John, who live in Chatham, Ontario. Also in attendance was Assistant DG Manish Mehta.

Here’s a reminder that Rotaract’s Filipino Benefit Night is March 30 at 7 p.m. at the Trotter House in Ann Arbor. Cost is \$15 and the event is to support our fellow Rotaractors in the Philippines. Note: Details are the “Looking Ahead” section above.

Scott Huckestein, our resident chocolatier, was responsible for placing chocolates with the Rotary logo on the tables set aside for our new members and their sponsors.

So far, 170 members have responded to the Rotary survey. Keep those responses coming in to help facilitate our strategic planning.



Carol Blessing



Matthew Johnson



YouSun Nam

Joanne Pierson introduced our U-M Rotaract officers on the occasion of Rotaract’s 40th birthday.

Tony Nam presented our Junior Rotarians from Pioneer High. Mathew Johnson, senior class president, has been accepted at U-M and at the University of Chicago. Carol Blessing, active in dance, isn’t sure yet where she’ll attend college but she’s been accepted at U-M, among other schools. YouSun Nam, active in Key Club, will attend a liberal arts college and perhaps join the Peace Corps.

District Governor Audrey rose to say “congratulations to you all and remember, you’ll get back what you give.”

## Notes from the Meeting of March 12, 2008



DG Audrey (left) and President AI (right) welcome eleven members

As co-chairs of the Membership Development Committee, Agnes Reading and Tim Marshall introduced a large class of 16 new Rotarians. In their order of presentation: John Balbach is development director at the U-M; Andrea Bernardini, to be inducted at an upcoming meeting, is an investment advisor with Chisholm & Dames investment advisors; Fran Brennan is director of development for Ele’s Place; Gloria Brooks is president and CEO of Arbor Hospice; Dr. Carl Frye is a retired physician with Ann Arbor Family Practice; Fiona Greenland, to be inducted at a future meeting, is a public policy analyst at Corporation for a Skilled Workforce; Mark Heusel is an attorney with Butzel Long; Barbara Hiltz is executive director of The Wellness

Community of Southeast Michigan; Todd Kephart is wealth management advisor, TIAA CREF; Ruth Knoll, to be inducted at an upcoming meeting, is founder of Summers-Knoll School; Joe Marr, to be inducted at an upcoming meeting, is owner of Marr Professional Development; Steve Pierce is owner and principal of Pierce Financial; Tim Porter is Vice President/Trust administrator at United Bank & Trust; Brian Tolle is president of The Tolle Group, organization development consulting; Heidi Vitso is co-owner & ballet director at Randazzo Dance; and Kirk Williams, to be inducted March 19, is a high school coordinator at the Rudolph Steiner School.



Six of our new members: John Balbach, Fran Brennan, Gloria Brooks, Carl Frye, Mark Heusel and Barb Hiltz.



Five more new members: Todd Kephart, Steve Pierce, Tim Porter, Brian Tolle and Heidi Vitso.  
The remaining five members will be introduced over the next few weeks.

President Al's Thought for the Day is an Irish saying along the lines "May your pockets be heavy/and your heart be light. May good luck pursue you/each morning and night."

The News and Notes were compiled by Don Faber, Harpoon editor. John White provided the photographs of the new members. Dave Felbeck photographed the Jr. Rotarians.

**Meeting Statistics:** Our reported attendance at today's luncheon meeting was 139 members. We had five visiting Rotarians (Laurie Baumer of Lansing; DG Audrey and John Chevalier of Chatham, Ontario; Phil Lowman of Rochester and ADG Manish Mehta of Ann Arbor North), six U-M Rotaractors (Garrett Chapman, President Julie Davidson, Zahran Fadel, Incoming President Noam Kimelman, Jamie Walsh and Valerie Wang) and four guests (including our three Junior Rotarians). A total of 38 persons attended the New Member Orientation earlier in the day while five committees (Community Allocations, Program, Rotaract, Social and Strategic Planning) met just before lunch. A total of 34 members participated.

## Other Notes of Interest

**Birthdays:** March 16 – David Harlock; March 17 – Brian Tolle; March 18 – Tim Marshall and Doug Weber; March 20 – Vic Rosenberg and March 20 – Downs Herold.



**Make-up Cards and Reports from Roving Rotarians:** Neil Bidwell (Key West Sunrise FL on March 7); Brad Bowersox (Ann Arbor North on February 21); Barbara Bryant (Scottsdale AZ on March 3); Brian Mackie (Utrecht, Netherlands on March 4); Steve Oldstrom (Mt. Pleasant East Cooper Breakfast, SC on March 11) and Pat Pooley (Santarem Aldeia, Brazil on January 21, Santarem University, Brazil on January 22 and Santarem, Brazil on January 24).

Brian sent in a report with his make-up: "I had the great pleasure of visiting this club in Utrecht (where my wife grew up). It is a very small group, as you can see (<http://www.ikzie.org/content/view/10/17/>). Membership is up to twenty-one. About a dozen people attend each meeting. It was a very nice, welcoming group. More than one-half the members are non-Dutch. One retired professor had spoken to classes at the U of M several times. They were shocked at the size of our club. They want to increase their membership (yet they want to keep the international character of their club by limiting Dutch membership). They are as informal as a group can be. It was a nice experience. I can see why our more seasoned members enjoy visiting other clubs. By the way, they only meet every other week. Membership costs 300 Euro for six months. We have a bargain."

Steve reports: "I made up yesterday, March 11, at the Mt. Pleasant East Cooper Breakfast, SC Club. There must have been 50+ members present. The program consisted of an auction and two of the auction items were a painting and a half-day charter fishing outing." With this taste of a fund-raising auction, Steve must surely be anticipating our own version as part of our club's Golf and Tennis Outing on Monday, September 8. Mark your calendars now.



**A Thank-You Note to President Al** [from DG Audrey after her visit on March 12]: “I am so grateful to you and everyone at the Ann Arbor Club for their hospitality yesterday. I thoroughly enjoyed your orientation and special induction of your new members. I was impressed about many things but perhaps the new members themselves are most impressive what an outstanding group. They will bring so many talents to your already great group of Rotarians. I forgot to say a special thank you to the membership committee for their leadership. You certainly lead the way on the district's Membership Blitz and I plan on putting something in the March newsletter. Thanks again for a wonderful experience and one that I will remember for days to come.”



**Home Stay Sought for Law Student from Thailand:** A request has come in through the district from a Rotarian in Bangkok. The Rotarian’s daughter, Miss Nontiya Chosivasakul, 25, has been admitted for her postgraduate study at the U-M Law School from August 2008 through May 2009. Prior to this, she will take the English summer program. It begins on June 24. Miss Nontiya is looking for home stay in Ann Arbor with Rotarians or Rotarians’ friends. Her dad is prepared to defray some the domestic expenses incurred by his daughter. The home stay will serve dual purposes: she will learn more of American way of family living and have a safe home stay at lower costs. Miss Nontiya was a former active Rotaractor and a Youth Exchange student to Belgium in 2000-01. If interested, contact President Al.



**District 6380 Conference is May 2-4** [excerpts of a note from DG Audrey]: The 2008 District Conference is only weeks away. This is my personal invitation to Rotarians, family and friends in District 6380! Join John and me at the Wheels Inn in Chatham, Ontario from May 2nd to the 4th, 2008 for a CELEBRATION.....Sharing Rotary. Friday morning tours have been arranged at no cost to you; the RM Classic Car exhibit or the Chatham-Kent Children's Safety Village. Our special entertainment on Friday night will be Michigan's beloved “Three Men and a Tenor.” Check out the list of speakers, delicious menu choices,

the whole agenda and much more on the District website at [www.rotary6380.org](http://www.rotary6380.org). I am looking forward to seeing each and every one of you!

**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, Member Access, the RI Annual Convention and the upcoming International Peace Forum in Windsor (on-line at <http://www.rotarypeacesummit.org/>).
- **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 53 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 our 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”