
THE SPARKPLUG

Rotary Club of Decatur #180
April, 2007

www.decaturre Rotary.org



A Message from the President

Greetings Fellow Rotarians,

It was a sad task to report to the membership the death of Bob Lloyd on March 22nd. In the almost nine years that I have been a member, Bob was always a part of my Rotary experience. He was one of the first individuals to introduce himself and welcome me to the club. When I became treasurer, Bob guided me through the process and kept me on track with what reports needed to be filed and when. Every month, Bob and Harold Murphy balanced the checking and savings accounts and prepared the financial statement for the board. As secretary, I always counted on Bob to provide the monthly attendance report that is required by the District. When new members joined, I forwarded the information to Bob, and he added them to the club records. Every quarter he made sure all of us received our invoices in a timely manner. While I and other officers relied on Bob for assistance with our tasks, it was his friendship, thoughtful deliberation, and willingness to serve that made him a remarkable man and a valued Rotarian.

Our club has lost five Rotarians in the past ten months; Stu Black in June, Bill Shade in August, Jane Hawkins in October, Jackson Owens in February and Bob Lloyd in March. Although I sent sympathy cards to the families and attended the funerals or memorial services when possible, those acts have never seemed adequate enough to commemorate the contributions that each of these Rotarians made to our club and community. I have decided to donate to the Rotary Club of Decatur #180 Endowment Fund through the Community Foundation to ensure that the legacy of service that these Rotarians gave to our club and community continues. I hope that each of you will consider doing likewise. It was a privilege to know Stu, Bill, Jane, Jackson and Bob. They are missed, but they will not be forgotten.

In Service,
Heather Stoa

"It is better to light a candle than curse the darkness." Chinese Proverb

April Programs

Invite a friend or co-worker to join you for these outstanding presentations.

- April 2 Part 1 -Abbey Britton, Myrrh Hector and Judi Moss, strategy team members of Decatur Community Partnership's ENACCT (Education Network to Advance Cancer Clinical Trials) Grant, will raise our awareness about cancer clinical trials.
- April 9 Part 2 -Abbey Britton, Myrrh Hector and Judi Moss, strategy team members of Decatur Community Partnership's ENACCT (Education Network to Advance Cancer Clinical Trials) Grant, will raise our awareness about cancer clinical trials. **MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE YMCA**
- April 16 Tammy Duckworth, the new Director of Veterans Affairs for Illinois will relate her experiences in the military and give us an update on what Illinois is doing for its veterans
- April 23 Our own Bruce Nims and his sidekick, Mark Sorensen, will share their 2006 hiking adventure in the Swiss and French Alps.
- April 30 Our own Andy Thomas of May, Cocagne & King, P.C. will present "Gettysburg.....That the Nation Might Live."



April Birthdays

Birthday traditions are often associated with symbols. The birthstone for April is a diamond. The origin of birthstones can be traced to the first century when twelve different stones were used in the breastplate of Jewish High Priests, each stone symbolizing a different tribe of Israel.

The April flower is the Sweet Pea signifying blissful pleasure, goodbye or thanks for a lovely time. Legend has it that Sweet Pea flowers in the house improve general wellbeing, boost libido, and lessen the effects of a hangover!

Happy Birthday Rotarians – May you be showered with diamonds and Sweet Peas!

- 4/3 Debbie Seitz
4/4 Robin Crowe
4/5 Matt Drain
4/6 Susan Keane
4/10 Janis Rhodes
4/10 Gayle Saunders
4/11 Norma Quihuis
4/14 Mary Ann Koucky
4/17 Wayne Allen
4/25 David Wilhour
4/25 Wegi Stewart
4/28 Randy Prince
4/30 Gloria Davis



Support The Rotary Foundation Annual Fund with \$100 Or become a Benefactor with \$1000 or More

By Glen Dalluge, Rotary Club of Decatur Foundation Chair

The end of March brings us three fourths of the way through our Rotary year. We are left with three months for each of us to provide our share of support to The Rotary Foundation through the Annual Fund by contributing \$100. Your donation helps our club meet the goal of giving by Every Rotarian, Every Year. Remember that if you are a first time donor to The Rotary Foundation (TRF), our club will match the first \$100 with \$50. Once your contributions total \$1000, you become a Paul Harris Fellow.



\$100 helps provide a hearing aid for a child

An aspect of support for The Rotary Foundation that all Rotarians should know about is the Permanent Fund. When we talk about contributing to The Rotary Foundation, it is usually about the Annual Fund – this is how members become Paul Harris Fellows. Monies from the Annual Fund are invested for three years before being used and fifty percent of those funds are returned to the district for projects such as Group Study Exchange, Ambassadorial Scholarships, and numerous other humanitarian, educational and cultural programs.

Permanent Fund contributions are invested in perpetuity. The earnings are used to provide an extra income stream to meet the increasing demand for our Foundation's programs and to ensure our ability to meet urgent human needs far into the future. Rotarians have already contributed over \$90 million and have committed another \$250 million to this endowed fund. The target is to reach \$1 billion by 2025.

Much of the Permanent Fund contributions come from Benefactors. To become a Benefactor, a Rotarian needs to arrange for testamentary gifts through a will, trust or other estate plan; by naming TRF as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy; or by making an outright gift of cash, property or investments of at least \$1000. Of course like the Paul Harris Fellow program, there are recognition levels for gifts ranging from \$1000 on upward. Anyone making a commitment of \$10,000 or more will be acknowledged as a major donor. To continue the good work of Rotary, each of us should give the Permanent Fund serious consideration.

The Rotary Foundation urges you to seek advice from a legal or financial professional of your choosing in all matters pertaining to a bequest or Living Trust.

If you are drafting a new will or codicil or establishing a trust, the following is sample language that may be used in making a bequest to The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International:

I give to The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, an Illinois Not-for-profit corporation, located in Evanston, Illinois (insert here the Sum, description of property, or percentage of residual estate) this gift is to be placed in said foundation's endowment, The Rotary Foundation Permanent Fund, from which a spending portion will be used to support the foundation's activities and programs.

Unless further directed by the donor, the spending portion will be directed to support foundation programs as determined by the trustees of The Rotary Foundation. If it is your intention that a portion of the spending be directed through a specific Rotary district, please indicate this on the Benefactor commitment card.

If you are willing to help others by contributing to the Annual Fund or by becoming a Benefactor and making a commitment to support the Permanent Fund, please contact President Heather Stoa or our Rotary Foundation Chair Glen Dalluge.



April Speakers' Honorarium – Doing our Part for Literacy

Each month, Rotary Club of Decatur donates funds in honor of our speakers to a Decatur or Macon County elementary school library for the purchase of new books. This month the donation will be sent to Stevenson Elementary School.

April Do Good Dollars

This month **Do Good Dollars** will be given to the Decatur Park Singers to help with the concert they will present in Decatur's Sister City of Seevetal, Germany. The Decatur Park Singers will tour throughout Germany and Austria this summer.

Please give generously!



Membership Updates

March was a great month for welcoming new members!

Kim Bauer, Director of the Lincoln Heritage Project with the City of Decatur joined on March 5th just one week after presenting a program to us. Kim was sponsored for membership by Melinda Hawbaker. He enjoys reading, sports, golf, Cub Scouts, and collecting antiques.

Norma Quihuis is the Vice-President and Controller for Jones and Thomas. She was sponsored for membership by Stu Ellis and looks forward to meeting members and learning more about the community. Norma joined on March 12th.

Two new members joined on March 26th. Julie Schwalbe, a gemologist and owner of Forever Facets was sponsored by Norma Maddio. Julie is a Decatur native and has fun rollerblading and traveling.

Howard Edwards moved to Decatur from Humboldt, Tennessee to become principal of Stephen Decatur Middle School. He was a Rotarian in Indiana and Tennessee. Howard likes sports and volunteering at church and in the community.

The resignation of Pete Johns was accepted with regret.



It is with sadness that we mourn the passing of Bob Lloyd on March 22nd. Bob joined Rotary Club of Decatur in August, 1955. His sponsor was Stu Black. Bob was a Paul Harris Fellow and served our club as a board member, president and executive bookkeeper. His commitment, advice and presence at our weekly meetings will be deeply missed.

We currently have 128 members including two honorary members.



March Scholar-Athletes

Eisenhower High School seniors Mary Caputo and Lester Hart were accompanied to the March 26th meeting by their parents and EHS principal, Colleen Legge. Tony Wilkins introduced the Scholar-Athletes and presented them with their awards.

Mary has 3.5 GPA and is a three year letterman in basketball, a four year letterman in soccer, and a two year letterman in cross-country. She has also been a member of Student Council for the past three years. Mary is currently an intern at Caterpillar. Coach Rider said about Mary, "Tremendous teammate and tremendous heart – our leader." Mary plans to attend Elmhurst College, play soccer, and study education hoping to teach internationally upon graduation.

Lester Hart has a 3.1 GPA and is a three year letterman in basketball and participated in track for one year. He was named to the Big 12 All-Conference and All County teams his junior and senior years. Lester has served as a mentor at Hope Academy. Coach Moore described Lester as, "One of the hardest workers I have ever had, and extremely coachable! Lester plans to attend college at Eastern Illinois University, Robert Morris or Western Indianan State, play basketball, and study business.



Kudos for Weekly Service to Our Club

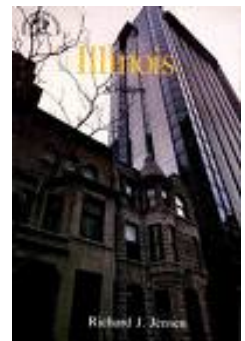
Thank you to Dick Cain, Jim Montgomery, Larry Foster and Stu Ellis for beginning our meetings with thoughtful invocations; to Sergeants-at-Arms Jane Shade, Al Luchetti, Dick Shelby and Bert Gray for recognizing visitors and collecting Happy Bucks; to our greeters Bud Wilcox, Dave Brandon, Paul Stanzione and Susan Keane for making everyone feel welcome; and to David Coopridner for leading us in song.

Special thanks to Steve Furrow for presiding when a dead car battery prevented Heather Stoa was from arriving in time to start the meeting (she "appreciated" the standing ovation)!

March Teacher of the Month Greg Collingwood

Greg Collingwood, a history teacher at Eisenhower High School, was honored as the Rotary Club of Decatur/Soy Capital Bank and Trust Teacher of the Month for March.

After graduating from Millikin University, Greg started his career in broadcasting, but soon realized he liked coaching and wanted to teach, so back to college he went. He received his teaching certificate and began coaching and teaching at Eisenhower High School – his alma mater. He is still able to use his communication skills by announcing home football and basketball games for EHS. Greg strives to make history come alive for his students. He also coaches girls and boys cross-country and track.



April is Magazine Month

About *The Rotarian*

Reprinted from the Rotary International Website

The Rotarian addresses the personal and business interests of a selected audience involved in business or one of the professions. The chief purpose of *The Rotarian* is to report Rotary news and general subjects directed to the interests, loyalty, and involvement of its member audience. General articles cover such topics as business, travel, health, education, environment, management and ethics, sciences, sports and adventure.

Rotary's Four Avenues of Service are stressed:

Club Service focuses on strengthening fellowship and ensuring the effective functioning of the club.

Vocational Service encourages Rotarians to serve others through their vocations and to practice high ethical standards.

Community Service covers the projects and activities the club undertakes to improve life in its community.

International Service encompasses actions taken to expand Rotary's humanitarian reach around the globe and to promote world understanding and peace.

History

The first issue of *The National Rotarian* was published in January 1911. This 12-page tabloid was considered the best way to distribute an essay written by Rotary founder Paul Harris. The essay was titled, "Rational Rotarianism." There was also club news and advertisements. About 2,000 copies were produced by printer Harry Ruggles, one of the first members of the Rotary Club of Chicago. Soon the issue went back to press for another 2,000 copies. Seventeen Nobel Prize winners and 19 Pulitzer Prize winners have written for the magazine. A partial list of eminent contributors includes: Thomas Mann, Edith Wharton, Knute Rockne, Frank Lloyd Wright, Mahatma Gandhi, Winston Churchill, Helen Keller, Eleanor Roosevelt, Norman Vincent Peale, Pearl S. Buck, Lowell Thomas, Betty Friedan, Willy Brandt, Javier Perez de Cuellar, Arthur C. Clarke, Richard Armour, Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., Rabbi Harold Kushner, Isaac Asimov, Cleveland Amory, Octavio Paz, and Jimmy Carter.

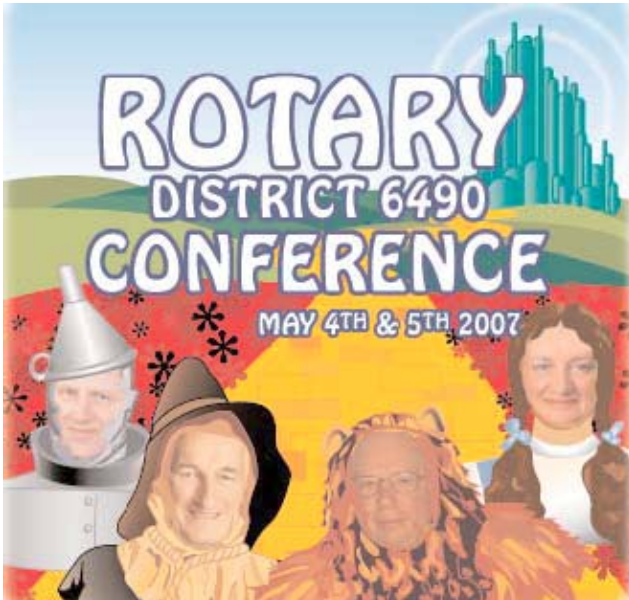
Subscribers

There are about 410,000 subscribers in the United States. Canada comes in second, with more than 30,000 subscribers. India is third, with about 10,000 subscribers. There are more than 4,800 subscribers in the Philippines, and 3,800 in Japan. In Nigeria, more than 3,000 club members subscribe to *The Rotarian*. In Australia, there are 1,900 subscribers and almost 1,300 in New Zealand. In Finland, there are 1,000 subscribers, as well as 1,500 in Hong Kong and 700 in Indonesia. Of the total number of subscriptions, about 20,000 are to non-Rotarians. Most of these are gift subscriptions to schools, libraries, and individuals. The Rotary Club of Rockford, Illinois, USA, has been the world's gift-subscription champion for many years. The club annually sponsors about 250 gift subscriptions to *The Rotarian*. The annual subscription price of the magazine is \$12 and is included in the cost of dues.



District 6490 Newsletter Available On-line

The latest district newsletter has been published on the District 6490 Web site. You may read it on-line by visiting <http://www.Rotary6490.org/Newsletter.cfm>.



Follow the Yellow Brick Road to the District 6490 Conference May 4th & 5th Champaign Hilton Garden Hotel

District Conference information and registration forms are available in the March issue of the District newsletter. Brochures listing the times, describing the workshops and containing the registration form will also be available at our Monday meetings. Our board has voted to subsidize the costs by half for Rotarians who attend any or all sessions and meals and register by April 10th for the Early Bird fees. The entire conference is \$98, but for Rotarians willing to attend all sessions, it will be \$54!

If you are primarily interested in hearing Bruce Weber speak at the District Governor's Banquet on Saturday evening, the cost for the meal is \$30, but just \$15 for our club members. Many Rotarians and spouses and guests are expected for the banquet. The first 400 to register will be seated in the main dining room; others will be in an adjoining room equipped with monitors. We are also hoping that our club is recognized at that time for several District awards.

The District Conference is a terrific way to:

1. interact with Rotarians from other clubs in our area,
2. hear more about The Rotary Foundation,
3. discover the good work being done through service projects in our communities and around the world,
4. learn about Rotary Exchange programs for youth, and
5. take home best practices for improving membership recruitment and retention.

If you miss the early bird deadline, you are still encouraged to attend, but the costs will be higher. Registration and fees must be in by April 20th. Just let Treasurer Lucy Murphy know the amount for reimbursement.

Sign up and have fun!

Board Meeting for Current and Incoming Board Members April 19, Noon at the Decatur Club

President-elect Steve Furrow will discuss goals and plans for the upcoming Rotary year with current and incoming officers and board members.

Officers

President – Heather Stoa
Vice-President – Steve Furrow
Secretary – Pen Shade
Treasurer – Lucy Murphy
Past President – Dave Brandon
Incoming Treasurer – Andy Thomas

Board Members:

Term Ends June 2007	Term Ends June 2008	Term Ends 2009	Term Ends 2010
Paula Finn	Diana Knaebe	Lora Dills	Michael DelSignore
Bill Owen	Jamie Maccari	Glen Dalluge	Al Luchetti
Paul Stanzione	Dick Shelby	David Goebel	Randy Prince
Andy Thomas	Glenda Williamson	Melinda Hawbaker	Jane Shade
Bryan Mikeworth	Bud Wilcox	Norma Maddio	Paul Stanzione

Many thanks to Dick Shelby for agreeing to fill the open seat on the term ending in 2008.

Alas! The heart warming story about Sir Alexander Fleming and Sir Winston Churchill in last month's newsletter was identified by one of our astute Rotarians as blarney. According to the Winston Churchill Center in Washington, D.C., there is no evidence that Winston Churchill's father paid for the education of the Alexander Fleming, the scientist who discovered of penicillin, nor that Winston Churchill's life was later saved by penicillin. Churchill was once treated for pneumonia, but according to the Center, not with penicillin.



Smile!

Glen Dalluge is taking photos for our on-line directory. If you do not have a photo, please see Glen before or after the meeting. Or if you have a photo that you would like to have used, please give it to Heather Stoa or e-mail it to her at: hhstoa@gmail.com. She will scan photos and return them to you.

For past issues of **The Sparkplug**, to read board minutes, to consult the board manual and club by-laws, or to look up member contact information, visit our Web site at www.decaturrerotary.org
