



"SERVICE ABOVE SELF" - "HE PROFITS MOST WHO SERVES BEST"

The Four Way Test

- 1. Is it the Truth?
- 2. Is it Fair to all concerned?
- 3. Will it build Goodwill and Better Friendships?
- 4. Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?

The Big Wheel

February 8, 2007

Editor/Distributor: Cyndi Quebbemann

Next Week: February 15 – John Ridler – Classification Speech

Volume No. 59 Issue 6

Programs: Tim Corrigan

Last Week's Speaker

The 2007 Valentine's Day Review: "Curley Girls"



Impresario Curly Nebel arranged for the John Hersey High School Show Choir, *Ladies First*, to present several song and dance numbers around the theme of colors.

Tim Heck, Hersey's Director of Choirs, accompanied the girls since Sara Michael, the group's director, could not attend our luncheon show.

The group played to a full house in the Wellington's ballroom.



The celebration had the potential for many of our club members to "pay it forward." As that recent movie of the same name suggested, we were able to show our appreciation to co-workers, friends and spouses by plying them with good conversation, good food, wine, beautiful flowers and entertainment- even chocolate sundaes!

Thanks to our esteemed Guests for coming and for supporting our Rotary efforts.

The forty or so members of the choir wore red performance dresses a propos of the event, combining exciting choreography with good voices. Our thanks go to Curly and "his girls."



On behalf of our club, he presented the group with a contribution to Hersey's music department.

In reality, however, June Remains Curley's Only "Girl" and Valentine.



Aren't they a wonderful Rotary couple?

Other Club News

New Big Wheel Editor

Kris Stabler used the opportunity of the Valentine's Day luncheon to introduce **Cynthia Quebbemann** to the club. Cyndi is the new Editor and Publisher of the *Big Wheel*.



Cyndi has worked with Kris Stabler at Arlington Park for the past three years.

The club welcomes Cyndi on board and expresses our appreciation for the changes she has already made in our newsletter.

New Members Inducted Into The Club

Service through Fellowship was demonstrated, too, through the induction of new members, **Bill Kmiecik**, Wisdom Investments, Arlington Heights (2015 S. Arlington Heights Rd, Suite 113; Classification: Tax and Financial Consulting) and **Rev. Scott Johnson**, Lutheran Church of the Cross, Arlington Heights (2025 S. Goebbert Rd; Classification: Clergy).



Our thanks go to **Ron Crawford** and **Mike Field**, respectively, for sponsoring Bill and Scott.

Club Welcomes A New Paul Harris Fellow

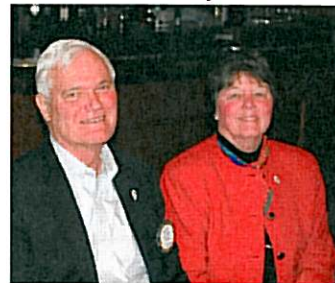
Our guests also saw a part of what Rotary is about when **Lynn Jensen** was acknowledged for his support of the **Rotary International Foundation**.



Lew O'Donnell presents him with a Paul Harris award. Our thanks go to Lynn for his support of the Rotary Foundation.

Happy To See You

The club was extremely pleased to have **Scott and Wendy Davis** join us for this festive Valentine's Day celebration. Scott, a member of the Board of Directors, is one of the club's most energetic members. We have missed seeing him at our regular meetings. We are all praying for Scott's return to health and to his regular attendance again.



Mike Silverman gave us quite a scare. Following last week's club meeting, Mike developed a heart problem that required a several day stay at Northwest Community Hospital.

His doctors implanted a defibrillator and sent him home in time for the Bear's game on Sunday. Too bad the Bears didn't recover as well as Mike did. Being the true Rotarian he is, Mike is back on his feet and as good as new. He didn't even miss a club meeting!



Solar Oven for Mother of Peace Orphanage

A couple of weeks ago, Ron Crawford gave the club a presentation on the solar oven project that our club has been sponsoring for the last three years. Just a few days later, he received photos of the second solar oven sponsored by the club that



had been shipped to the Mother of Peace Orphanage in Zimbabwe. The first photo shows the oven in

the orphanage's multi-purpose room just after being received. The other photo shows the Mother of Peace staff members who will be trained to use the oven on a daily basis to make meals for the children at the orphanage (about 150) and provide food for the surrounding community (about 125). They expect to use the oven for 8 hours a day, seven days a week.



Remember that your gifts to the Rotary Foundation make this kind of project possible.

Thank you for your support.

Collecting Books to Aid Literacy Programs

Pictured are Rotarians Bob Nash, Ron Crawford, and Pat McMahon loading up some of the books donated by students of District 25 schools. More than 1,800 books were collected by students of South and Thomas Middle Schools and Westgate and Greenbrier Schools. Windsor School will

have its collection in a few weeks. Our Rotary club would like to thank the



administrators and students of District 25 for donating their gently used books. This year, all of the books donated will be distributed to Chicago inner city schools to boost literacy, especially in schools where students are reading below grade level.

Our Club At Work

On the evening of February 5th, one of the year's coldest nights, twenty-five members of our club were involved for almost four hours in one of the club's first long-range strategic planning effort. Nearly half of the active members of our club participated. What a turn-out in such inhospitable weather!

This planning session was inspired and led by officers from District 6440. At its November 2006 *Lead The Way Workshop*, the District announced this undertaking and indicated that it would provide the facilitators if the hosting clubs would provide the willing participants, a place to meet and a light dinner. Our club is one of the first to take the District up on its offer of guidance and resources.

Mike Ericksen, District Governor-Elect; Pam Kerr, District Governor-Nominee; Terry Mueller, Past District Governor; and Martha Weiss of the Buffalo Grove Rotary Club made up our Vision Facilitation Team.

Kris Stabler arranged for us to use a banquet room at Arlington Park's Trackside. Our facilitators from the



District showed up early to set up the meeting. They were accompanied by a few observers such as Ed Hedeem, the helpful Rotarian on the right in the above picture.

While we ate dinner, Terry Mueller gave a short PowerPoint presentation about strategic planning and the goals of RI and District 6440 in this area. She also introduced the club to a major new RI initiative, implementing the Club Leadership Plan, to help individual clubs modernize their organizational structures (more on that in future newsletters).



Mike Ericksen, DGE, took us through the set-up for this session. We were transported to the year 2012 and asked to look back over the last five years of our club's life and activities.

From that vantage point, we were asked to fill out a "form letter application" to be sent to Rotary International to vie for an inaugural Distinguished Club Medallion. We all had 30 minutes to list bullet points in the six sections of this letter about our club's accomplishments in support of our application for the award. Those six sections included:

- What does your Club "stand for"?
- What are your Club's size and attributes?
- What projects and activities have you successfully completed in the four service areas?
- What successes have you had in public relations and promoting your club and Rotary International?
- What successes can your club point to in support of the RI Foundation?
- What are your club's accomplishments in carrying out leadership development?

Mike then lead a discussion in each area of the "letter." Everyone forgot about the weather outside and got immersed in the challenge at hand.



Mike was assisted by Martha and Terry in his effort to capture the thoughts of our participants.



Martha and Terry distilled on flip charts the best of our club's collective thoughts and stuck the sheets up on nearly every open space on the wall.

We then went through a voting process. Each participant got an opportunity to select three items in each major section of the "letter" that he or she felt would make our best case for receiving the award and put blue dots beside them. The facilitators then crossed out the items that received the fewest votes. The process was repeated with red dots. This time we selected from the shorter list in each section that resulted from eliminating the less popular items.

At the end, we—as a club—had identified high priority action items that had the possibility of making us an award-winning club if we are able to accomplish them within the next five years.

The flip chart sheets and the lively discussion belongs to our club. What we did on this cold February evening, with the help of our District facilitators, was to lay the foundation for a five-year strategic plan. The Board has taken ownership of this challenge and the invaluable "input" that has come from this meeting. In the next weeks and months, the Board will find ways to involve everyone in putting together a long-term plan for our club.

Ron Popp, club president, expressed his appreciation to Mike Ericksen, Terry Mueller and Martha Weiss for their skillful job in facilitating this meeting for our club. He also thanks the following club members who took time out from their busy schedule to take part in this important activity:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Jim Bertucci | Lynn Jensen |
| Bill Billimoria | Rick Koebernick |
| Jennifer Burnidge | Stacey Mallek |
| Pete Cavoto | Jim Miller |
| Nick Chrisos | Bob Nash |
| Tim Corrigan | Curley Nebel |
| Ron Crawford | Bob Paddock |
| Terry Ennes | Kerry Pearson |
| Mike Field | Ron Popp |
| Jim Hassenplug | Jon Ridler |
| Paul Hester | Kris Stabler |
| Bill Hoff | Harry Vaswani |
| | Ron Walter |

Getting To Know Your Fellow Rotarians

Profiling Past Presidents

Ron Walter joined The Rotary Club of Arlington Heights in January 1987. He has always been an active member of our club and is one of the first people to introduce himself to new members. His broad smile make everyone feel welcome.



Ron Walter
Club President
1999-2000

These days Ron is one of our esteemed Fine Masters. He and his family shop for gifts as participants in our holiday giving project. He stays involved with our annual raffle and has worked the pizza booth during Frontier Days.

Ron has held many positions during his twenty years of membership. He has served on the Board of Directors as Assistant Secretary, Secretary, Vice President, President Elect, President and finally Past President. He is a Paul Harris Fellow twice over.

During his presidential year the club installed playground equipment at a school for disabled children next to Prospect High School. In recognition of this good deed, the playground is now called "Rotary Park." That year Ron and Greg Dettro, the club's Immediate Past President, represented our club at the Rotary International Convention in Singapore.

He and his wife Rosemary, have lived in Arlington Heights since 1986. They have two daughters, Tracy and Laura.

Ron actively supports the Rotary Exchange Student program. He and Rosemary:

- Coordinated the inbound exchange student visit of **Anil Aktash**, a student from Turkey sponsored by our club and
- Hosted **Yuka Takahashi** who was an exchange student from Japan

The Walters have maintained a strong relationship with Yuka over the years. She visits them nearly every year. Just this last year Yuka was married. During her annual visit, **Rev. Dave Stuckmeyer**, another member of our Rotary Club, blessed her at Faith Lutheran Church in Arlington Heights.

Ron is an **Investment Advisor** and **First Vice President** for **Wachovia Securities** in Itasca. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from the **University of Illinois in Champaign**. In 1980, following graduation, he joined Merrill Lynch. Four years later, Prudential in Schaumburg recruited him to start a new office, where he remained for seven years. Once again he was recruited by a Chicago-based regional firm, Hamilton Investments, which was a division of Household International.

Ron took a circuitous route to his current position. He survived a series of acquisitions and mergers, working successively for Principal Financial Securities, Everen Securities and First Union Securities. These tumultuous years came to a close when First Union Securities merged with Wachovia Securities. For 16 years, he has been with Wachovia, where he advises individuals and corporations on how to achieve their financial goals. Many of our club's Rotarians are currently clients of Ron.

Believe it or not, Ron once had a fear of public speaking. Watching him as a Fine Master, you would never know that. According to Ron, "Rotary has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life."

Fine Master's Corner

Fine master **Ron Walter** got off easy today by just asking for "Happy Fines."

Perhaps he should fine himself next week for shifting his job to the members!?

We all paid up, though, earning good will with fines to recognize our guests.

Upcoming Events from District 6440 and Rotary International

Apr 19, 2007 – Annual District Conference
Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

Jun 17, 2007 – Rotary International Annual Convention, Salt Lake City, Utah

Rotarians absent on 2/8/07

Barnish, Behrens, Billimoria, Blaseck, Boggs,
Chisholm, French, Grana, Heller, Hester, Hood,
Koebernick, Landwehr, Mahoney, McMahon,
Malleck, Mitchell, Murray, Musolino, Nash,
Nuccio, Oakes, Ohrstrom, Ryan, Sampson,
Scaletta, Schweers, Stuckmeyer, Whisler, S.

*Any ideas for programs? Know someone that
would be a good future speaker? ...Contact Tim
Corrigan at (847) 394-0266, or e-mail him at
tcorrigan@corriganinc.com*

If you have any announcements that you would
like to see in the newsletter please email them to
cquebbemann@arlingtonpark.com

Pledge of Allegiance, 4-Way
Test and Invocation

2007

February 15 – Roger Key
February 22 – Lynn Jensen
February Stand In – Wellman Hoff

March 01 – Joseph Higgs
March 08 – Paul Hester
March 15 – James Hassenplug
March 22 – Matt Grana
March 29 – Marie French
March Stand In – Michael Field

*Scheduled Rotarians are responsible for contacting their
stand-in should they not be available for their assignment.*

*Have a happy
and safe
Valentine's
Day!*



Upcoming Programs & Events:

2007

February 15 – John Ridler – Classification
Speech
February 22 – Judy Goldman – Project Linus
North & Central Chicagoland Chapter
March 01 – Dr. (Zhu) Yu
March 08 – Ron Popp – Rotary Club of
Arlington Heights Strategic Planning
March 15 – Stacey Mallek – Classification
Speech
March 22 – Open
March 29 – Jeff Grant – Home Inspection