

February 2004

# THE DRIVER

BULLETIN OF THE ORLAND PARK ROTARY CLUB

## 2003-2004 Officers and Board of Directors

District 6450

Governor 2003-2004

**CHUCK JOHNSON**

815-942-3722

cjohnson@uti.com

**BOB STRAZ**

President

Email: rstraz@palosbank.com

**JOHN SCHAEFER**

President Elect

**GEORGE HARRIS**

Secretary

**KEN REILLY**

Treasurer

**DAN MATIS**

Past President

Directors:

**HAL GURGONE**

**RICH TOPPS**

**QUENTIN KLING**

**KELORYN PUTNAM**

**PATRICK ZOMPARELLI**

### *Avenues of Service Chairs:*

**MARTY MC GRAW**

Club Service

**MAUREEN NISWONGER**

Community Service

**MELANIE JONES**

Membership

**NEAL ANDERSON**

Foundation

**KELORYN PUTNAM**

Vocational Service

**DAN HARRIS**

International Service

**MIKE CASEY**

Youth Coordinator

**PATRICK ZOMPARELLI**

Program Chairman

### THE FOUR WAY TEST OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY OR DO:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

## *The President's Message*

It's hard to believe that my term as President is more than halfway over. It has been a great run for me and I hope for all of you. We are starting to see new faces as we have added three new members so far this year. {Rich, I'm including in the three. You are "new" to some of the members.} That's even before Melanie has our membership night on March 24th.

As we think about prospective members, let's think about people who want to help others while enjoying others. Fellowship and teamwork are important to any efforts that we put forth. I see a new level of energy in so many of our recent new members. The numbers that are going to the District Conference reminds me of the days that we would be a driving force at the Conference. Remember those hospitality suites of yesteryear.

We are accomplishing many good things to benefit many individuals. The fact that we were able to secure a Rotary district grant through the efforts of George Harris show that your hard work and commitment is paying off and being recognized by other Rotarians.

We have a great group of dedicated people coming up through the chairs and as we add new energetic members to our own numbers we will continue accomplish many good things as we put SERVICE ABOVE SELF.

Bob Straz

## QUOTES

The purpose of life is not to win. The purpose of life is to grow and to share. When you come to look back on all that you have done in life, you will get more satisfaction from the pleasure you have brought into other people's lives than you will from the times that you outdid and defeated them.

-Harold Kushner, Rabbi and author

*The habit of cheerfulness is like a rope that is woven day after day until it becomes nearly unbreakable.*

Leadership is the art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it."

-Dwight D Eisenhower

*When I hear somebody sigh, 'Life is hard,' I am always tempted to ask, 'Compared to what?'*

-Sydney Harris

Remember, people will judge you by your actions, not your intentions. You may have a heart of gold — but so does a hard-boiled egg.

*A small act of caring, which you've long forgotten, could be one of the brightest memories in someone else's life.*

## Rotary Calendar

Date	Speaker
2/5	Bob Stillman • Second City
2/12	TBA
2/19	Larry Urbanski • Moviecraft
2/26	Melanie Jones
3/4	Lunch at McCord House
3/11	TBA
3/18	Dan Plowman • Paul Harris Memorial
3/24	NEW MEMBERSHIP NIGHT
3/25	No meeting



## Congratulations

to Elias Gordan and his wife, Athena, on the birth of their son Alex, born on December 1, 2003.



Terese with Patrick & Keloryn Ice Skating at Millennium Park

## Hello From Terese

The past couple of months I've been able to do quite a lot of things. In early December I spent a weekend downtown Chicago with both inbounds and outbounds. Of course we had to do some shopping and eating at Food Life in Watertown, but we also had time to go ice-skating in Millennium Park. It was a great weekend.

I spent Christmas with my host family. It wasn't so different from what I'm used to, just a little bit! The day before Christmas I delivered some Christmas food baskets with Frank Christiano. I want to thank Melanie Jones for taking me and my host sister to see the ballet 'The Nutcracker'. That was a wonderful play.

During Christmas break I also visited the German market downtown, Chinatown and Chicago Children's museum. The second weekend in January I went on a ski trip to Devil's Head, Wisconsin, as I in matter of fact got from the club in Christmas present, thank you. But before we went there we stayed at host families in Libertyville, the Libertyville Rotary club hosted us. Early Saturday morning we went with bus and when we arrived around noon, we got our rooms and skies and after that off skiing. Sunday afternoon we headed back to Libertyville even though it would have been nice to stay there a couple of extra days! With me there were about twenty other exchange students.

If you'd like to include Terese in your activities, contact her at (708) 361-0122 or Mike Casey at (708) 829-4690 to make arrangements.

JUST A NOTE: Terese received all "A's" on her report card for the first semester...WAY TO GO!!

## Bravo!

Congratulations to Melanie Jones who recently passed her licensing exam. She is now looking for clients in the Southwest suburbs.

## Rotary Annual Scholarship Raffle Wednesday • May 5th Silver Lake Country Club

It's hard to believe it's that time again, but the tickets are ready to go for our Annual Scholarship Raffle. If you have not picked up your tickets yet, be sure to contact John Schaefer or pick them up at the next meeting. Last year we had over 20 restaurant/gift raffles in addition to the regular monetary prizes and we'd like to do the same this year. If you have a favorite restaurant, ask if they would be willing to donate a raffle prize to add to the event.

The top sellers of last year's tickets are:

Kacerovskis • 76

Matis • 37

Streng • 36

Paetow • 30

Grabinski • 29

Mulcahy • 23

Danihel • 20

Roland • 18

Svalina • 18

McGee • 18

McKeever • 18

Let's get all the tickets sold before May 1st!

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

A heartfelt welcome to the new members of our club, **Rich Lentfer, Joe McCorry, and Dr. Steve Timmerman.**

The Board has also approved Honorary Membership to **Dr. Rabi Sulayman.** If you have not introduced yourself to these new members, please make every effort to do so.

## Did You Know?

Q: Did you ever wonder why dimes, quarters and half dollars have notches, while pennies and nickels do not?

A: The US Mint began putting notches on the edges of coins containing gold and silver to discourage holders from shaving off small quantities of the precious metals. Dimes, quarters and half dollars are notched because they used to contain silver. Pennies and nickels aren't notched because the metals they contain are not valuable enough to shave.

# Thank You

Many, many thanks to Dr. George Harris and Mary Jo for hosting the Fellowship evening in their beautiful home. The food was great and the fellowship was fabulous!



**Mark Your Calendar!**  
**Fellowship at Max Bianchini's Farm**  
Sunday, March 14th  
3:00 p.m.  
Details available soon!



Megan Hubbard & Anthony Vasoli of Chicago Rotex spoke to students at the Chicago Weekend.

## Chicago Rotex

Rotary Youth Exchange Alumni have proudly joined together to form the Chicago Rotex for districts 6440 and 6450! The dedicated alumni are speaking to students, parents, and school administrators in the Chicagoland area to increase the awareness of the Rotary Youth Exchange change Program. Rotex is also arranging programs for both Inbound and Outbound students by creating Rotex sponsored events, as well as mentoring relationships with the students. Rotary Clubs are asked to get involved by having Rotex members speak at club meetings about the Youth Exchange Programs and ways to increase interest and involvement of students and host families. If you have any questions or would like Rotex to speak to a club, school, or organization, please send an email to [rotexchicago@yahoo.com](mailto:rotexchicago@yahoo.com) or call Megan Hubbard at 312.310.0689.

## New Member Information Night

Wednesday • March 24  
6:00 pm  
Silver Lake Country Club

Melanie Jones is in charge of our New Member Information Night and has promised the evening will be "awesome!" Think about who introduced you to Rotary and how you have benefited from our club. There are many who don't know about Rotary or are just waiting to be asked to join. Make a commitment to bring someone to this event so we're no longer the 'best kept secret' in the area!

## January Birthdays

Keloryn Putnam 9<sup>th</sup>  
Nancy Panozzo 14<sup>th</sup>  
Bill Grabinski 16<sup>th</sup>  
Cherry Vujevich 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Maureen Niswonger 31<sup>st</sup>

## February Birthdays

Kenneth Reilly 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Thomas Roland 15<sup>th</sup>  
Harold Gurgone 19<sup>th</sup>  
Martin McGraw 26<sup>th</sup>  
Mike Saracini 29<sup>th</sup>

## Orland Park Rotary Supports Voice of Optometric Services to Humanity (VOSH) Upcoming Trip to Swaziland, Africa

VOSH is an organization dedicated to providing vision care worldwide to persons who can't afford or obtain such care. In 2001 VOSH/International signed a declaration with the World Council of Optometry and the World Health Organization to eliminate avoidable blindness by the year 2020. VOSH/International is the voice of 33 chapters and 17 student chapters in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Honduras, India, Africa and the Netherlands.

Members include Optometrists, opticians, ophthalmologists, medical personnel and trained lay persons who have no political or religious agenda. Volunteers pay their own way. For the last 30 years VOSH has functioned without a payroll. The only compensation VOSH members receive is the satisfaction of helping others. Many VOSH members return year after year.

**Dr. Jim Sanderson** and his wife **Louise** are gearing up for their upcoming mission to Swaziland Africa, February 20<sup>th</sup> 2004. The objective of these missions is to improve people's vision so they can be more productive and enjoy a better quality of life. The need for eye care in underdeveloped nations where wages may be less than \$1.00 a day is overwhelming. VOSH has also uncovered that these same individuals who cannot afford quality vision care do not have the basics needed for everyday life. Orland Park Rotary has donated \$500.00 to help in this area. We are thankful that we are so fortunate to be able to support this worthy cause and that we have members like Dr. Jim Sanderson who along with his wife Louise who use their own resources and give of their own time to support the objectives of VOSH. This will be the Sanderson's 15<sup>th</sup> mission in 20 years.

**\*\*We need your help! If you have any news or information you would like to see in your Rotary newsletter, please contact Kathy Mahoney at 708-671-2575 or Keloryn Putnam at 708-349-2972\*\***

# Buying Happiness

A fashionable little girl, clutching a wad of money, carefully surveyed the aisles of a toy store. Her search ended as she stopped in front of a magnificent doll with a heart shaped face and a velvet dress, "Do I have enough?" she asked her father. He nodded yes. As she walked down the aisle with her new doll, she noticed another child and father going through the same decision-making process.

The little boy held only a few dollars in his hand. His pants were too short and the sleeves of his jacket were frayed. He grew excited when he spotted a game on the shelf. "This is what I want!" he cried to his father. "Do I have enough?"

But his father lowered his eyes and shook his head no. The little boy looked at the money in his hand and then placed the game back on the shelf. He took his father's hand and they continued down the aisle toward a display of coloring books.

The little girl studied the doll she had chosen and then looked over at the game the little boy had wanted. She put the doll back on the shelf and picked up the game. "Do I have enough?" she asked her father again.

When he nodded yes, she ran to the cashier with her purchase. After paying for the game, the little girl whispered something to the cashier—who quickly wrapped the game and stuck it under the counter.

The girl and her father stood near the exit until the boy and his father checked out. "Congratulations, you have been selected to win a prize!" the cashier said to the boy, presenting him with the gift-wrapped game.

"Wow!" cried the boy as he opened the package. "This is *just* what I wanted!"

"That was very generous of you, sweetie," said the girl's father as they left the store. "What made you decide to do it?"

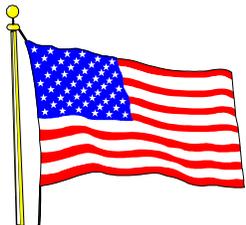
"Daddy, didn't Nana and PawPaw want me to buy something that would make me happy?"

"Of course they did, honey."

"Well, I just did."

Adapted from "Toothless Grin" by Sharon Palmer  
*Stories For A Cheerful Heart*, Multnomah Publishers

**Orland Park Rotary Club**  
**P.O. Box 276**  
**Orland Park, IL 60462**



**Visit the Orland Park Rotary Web Site at [www.orlandparkrotary.org](http://www.orlandparkrotary.org)**



## Past District Governor

Quentin P. Kling ..... 1976-77

## Past Presidents

Quentin P. Kling.....1972-73  
 Carol Bateman.....1973-74  
 Richard H. Letnfer.....1974-75  
 Richard B. Coghill.....1975-76  
 Ira J. Hornbeck.....1976-77  
 Edward Peterson.....1977-78  
 William P. Cote.....1978-79  
 Thomas J. Barcelona .....1979-80  
 Paul Schrieber.....1980-81  
 Howard J. Waraday.....1981-82  
 Edward W. Mulcahy.....1982-83  
 Bill Kacerovskis.....1983-84  
 Rich Wahlberg.....1984-85  
 Jim Dory.....1985-86  
 James Bateman.....1986-87  
 James Sanderson.....1987-88

Ralph Caron.....1988-89  
 Robert Hyland.....1989-90  
 Robert Pasqualoni.....1990-91  
 Martin T. McGraw.....1991-92  
 Massimo 'Max' Bianchini.....1992-93  
 Dennis J. DeLance.....1993-94  
 John Arena.....1994-95  
 Gerald Stoiber.....1995-96  
 Anne Kacerovskis.....1996-97  
 Neal Anderson.....1997-98  
 Gregory Paetow.....1998-99  
 David Corradino.....1999-2000  
 Lou Mule'.....2000-01  
 Chris Gary.....2001-02  
 Dan Matis.....2002-03



Lend a Hand

## 2004 Rotary Communications Survey

**Your feedback counts.** In this month's newsletter you will see we have included our 2004 Rotary Communications Survey. The most important question in this survey is do you feel our club is involved enough in the community? We want your thoughts. Please share your ideas for new programs or enhancements to existing programs so we can increase our impact in the community and the people we serve. The survey also includes our 2004 programs line-up. If you need more information on any of these programs or would like to volunteer to help support one, please let us know. Again, we want to stress that this survey is for general planning purposes only. When the appropriate program time approaches you will be contacted to confirm your interest and involvement. Finally, we are also asking that you update your contact information; we know this is an extra step but we are in the process of consolidating our databases and it just helps us to better communicate with you. Thanks in advance for taking a few minutes to complete and return the survey on or before February 15<sup>th</sup>. We'll report our findings back in a summarized fashion so everyone can see the results of this effort.

•••••

## 2004 District Conference

The District Conference will be held April 30-May 2, 2004. So far, our Club has the highest participation with 22 members registered to attend. *It's not too late to participate. Contact Keloryn for a registration form if you need one.* Those of you who are already registered should have received a letter from Bob Whaley requesting payment for additional activities. Please send in your payment to Bob Whaley as soon as possible or you might not be able to participate as the activities fill up fast. Our club is hosting a Hospitality Room and your ideas are needed. Let John Shaefer know how you'd like to help with this.

•••••

Financial statements for our Club members are available upon request. Contact Ken Reilly at 708-349-9307.

## Upcoming Club Meetings

Larry Urbanski is a movie archivist whose company, MovieCraft, Inc. in Orland Park, has one of the largest collections of old and rare movies in the Chicagoland area. He will speak to our club on **February 19<sup>th</sup>** and bring a sample of his collection. A former history teacher, Larry has fascinating stories and you won't want to miss this meeting.

## The McCord House

The McCord House is a well preserved 1834 farm house in Palos Park, Illinois. Constructed by John D. McCord after he obtained the land in 1834, the home stayed in the original family for well over 100 years. Today, the home is used as a focal point for the artists in the general Palos community. Palos Park had developed as an artist's community in the early 20th century, and it is fitting that the home now serves as a focal point to the McCord Gallery and Cultural Center. Our club has been invited to tour the house and have lunch on Thursday, **March 4<sup>th</sup>** at 12:15 p.m. The McCord House is located on LaGrange Road at 129th Street. Parking is available behind the house. **Please contact Keloryn at 708-349-2972 or email at [kputnam@wideopenwest.com](mailto:kputnam@wideopenwest.com) if you plan on attending so they can plan lunch.**

## Paul Harris Memorial

Dan Plowman, a Rotarian officer from the Crestwood-Blue Island club, will be giving a talk to us on March 18th. Dan has some unusual connections to Paul Harris and is on the Paul Harris Memorial Committee. The Memorial is within their district and in need of some refurbishing. It is Bob Straz' wish for our club to visit the memorial and get involved in it's upkeep. After his presentation Dan will be asking our club to purchase one engraved paver stone for the new walkway at the memorial. His goal is to have one for each district club and installed before the Centennial Celebration of '05. We will plan to have our Club visit the Paul Harris Memorial in the near future.

## Message from President-Elect John Schaefer

District Governor-elect Chris Reilly and his wife Georgia, along with Assistant Governor John Keane (Oak Forest) invited the president-elects from Oak Forest, Tinley Park, New Lenox and Orland park to get acquainted at Lavery's Inn Tinley Park. Everyone enjoyed sharing what they do, what Rotary means to them and what their respective clubs are up to. Chris shared how as a young scientist working for Argonne National laboratory, many years ago, he was offered the opportunity to participate in Rotary. He took the opportunity, in part, because it would give him extra lunch time away from the lab during a time when many long hours were expected from he and his colleagues. He also shared the fact that had he not been asked to begin participating in some Rotary committees he may not have stayed a member and used this to emphasize the importance of getting newer members involved.

Governor elect Reilly talked about his philosophy for the coming year. He and his wife are constantly amazed by Rotary International activities and noticed that none of those initiatives came from the Chicago area. Chris feels this is due, in part, because of Rotary's birthplace being local and that we are riding Paul Harris coattails. He would like to see that change and if he had to verbalize this he might say that we should cherish our past but prepare for the future. He mentioned a number initiatives being considered including the possible training of Iraqi doctors locally. Chris also talked about the Rotary centennial celebration and that much has already been planned including, thanks to honorary Rotarian Mayor Richard Daley, a parade down Columbus drive during the convention. He's very excited about the possibilities and looks forward to hearing from every club in this regard. Chris and his wife are planning to visit the Orland Park Rotary club on October 7th of this coming year.

## Rotary International Conference Chicago June 18-22, 2005

Host homes will be necessary for the 250,000 people from all over the world who will be attending the Centennial Celebration of Rotary. If you are willing to be a host, contact Russ LaMantia who is developing a database of host families.