

March 2003

# THE ORLAND PARK RIVER

BULLETIN OF THE ORLAND PARK ROTARY CLUB

**2002-2003  
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Directors**

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Governor 2002-2003

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## 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*

March has come in like a lion so I guess the ground hog was right about the persistence of this winter. Like this winter, Rotary is persisting in the struggle to eradicate polio. This month's *Rotarian* has an article about life with polio. Please read it and think of the tragedy it would be if we fail in our quest. The photo of the rows of iron lungs is sobering and reminds us how vicious our enemy is.

We thank the club for its generosity and support in the "Polio Plus" campaign. However, we can and must do better. The Club has generated \$6000 in new and matching contributions. This is a good start, but not the best we can do. I know it is raffle time and selling tickets in this economy is a real challenge. Trying to find a few more dollars for "Polio Plus" will not be easy. Let's do our best.

Finally, this club's "Introduction to Rotary" night is Wednesday, March 19th. Please invite someone who needs to know about Rotary and plan to be there. This is an opportunity to share the opportunity to "sow the seeds of love."

Thanks for your support,  
Dan Matis

# Greetings from Gui

Hello Everyone! It has been great to experience snow but I am really tired of Winter- It's So So Cold!! I have been playing indoor soccer every week with my host brother Dominick but not too much else is happening. I am really looking forward to a weekend with all the Rotary Exchange students which is sponsored by the Woodstock Rotary Club in March. ~ *Gui*

## QUOTES

Enthusiasm is the yeast that makes your hope rise to the stars.

*If you treat every situation as a life and death matter, you'll die a lot of times.*

*-Dean Smith*

The undeveloped piece of property with the greatest potential is still between the ears.

**If your name is to live at all, it is so much more to have it live in people's hearts rather than only in their brains. I don't know that one's eyes fill with tears when he thinks of the famous inventor of logarithms.**

*-Oliver Wendell Holmes*

The greatest conflicts are not between two people but between on person and himself.

*-Garth Brooks*

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## Rotary Progressive Dinner

Saturday, April 5, 2003 will be the Rotary Progressive Dinner. If you plan on attending, please be sure that Ken Reilly has your name on his list. We are still looking for a couple of homes to host the dinner.



The meal will be catered so you will not be expected to cook. You only need to provide seating and place settings for 8 people. If your home can be included, please contact Ken Reilly at (708)349-9307. This is a great evening for fun and fellowship!

# Introduction To Rotary

**Wednesday • March 19 • 6:30 pm**  
**Silver Lake Country Club**

Think about the person who introduced you to Rotary and why you joined the Orland Park Club. How have you benefited by becoming a Rotarian? There are many who don't know about Rotary or who are waiting to be asked to join. This is the perfect time to ask someone to join you at this event. Please make a commitment to bring someone to learn about Rotary.



Here are some examples of accident reports filed with insurance companies:

- ◆ An invisible car came out of nowhere, struck my car and vanished.
- ◆ I had been driving my car for 40 years when I fell asleep at the wheel and had the accident.
- ◆ As I reached the intersection, a hedge sprang up, obscuring my vision.
- ◆ I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my mother-in-law, and headed over the embankment.
- ◆ The pedestrian had no idea which direction to go, so I ran over him.
- ◆ The telephone pole was approaching fast. I attempted to swerve out of its path when it struck my front end.
- ◆ The guy was all over the road. I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him.

## ♣ March 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>



### ROTARY CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
3/16	DeVry University Senior Projects
3/13	Carole Madsen • Caring for Senior Parents
3/19	Rotary Infomation Evening
3/20	No Meeting
3/27	John O'Brien • Southtown Staff Writer

## SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW

### *Kathy Mahoney*

**Name:** Kathy Mahoney

**Birthplace:** Evergreen Park, Illinois

**Childhood:** Southwest side of Chicago

**High School:** Bogan High School

**Present Home:** Tinley Park

**Employer:** Founders Bank

**Position:** Senior Vice President

**What does your job involve:** I manage the daily operation and personnel administration of two branches, Tinley Park and Homer Glen, which includes business development, community involvement and much multi-tasking!

**Hobbies:** Golf, volunteer work, bowling, spending time with my family.

**I'd give anything to meet:** Jackie Kennedy-what a class act!

**How many years involved in Rotary?** 11 years

**Why did you join Rotary?** Part of my job is to understand the needs of the community. Rotary was a diverse group of business leaders committed not only to our geographic community but the international community. While my original reason was business related - now 11 years later, my membership has provided me with an extended family.

**Favorite Rotary Memory:** There are so many...but my most memorable is meeting my husband, Tom, at the March 4, 1994 meeting. That moment changed my life in a most wonderful way!

**Most memorable life event:** The birth of my son, Patrick. He is truly my gift from God. And...I finally understand what my mother meant about unconditional love when she said: "You'll understand when you're a parent."

**Involvement with other Service/Civic Organizations:** Orland Park Chamber of Commerce (past president) Tinley Park Chamber of Commerce (past board member), American Business Women's Association (past president) Village of Tinley Park Economic Development Commission, Crisis Center for South Suburbia (Board President 2001-2003). Also, I'm a volunteer for the National Kidney Foundation of Illinois where I draw on my experience from donating a kidney to my brother in 1977, and share the experience with others contemplating organ donation.

## "A Woman and a Fork"

There was a young woman who had been diagnosed with a terminal illness and had been given three months to live. So as she was getting her things "in order," she contacted her pastor and had him come to her house to discuss certain aspects of her final wishes. She told him which songs she wanted sung at the service, what scriptures she would like read, and what outfit she wanted to be buried in. Everything was in order and the pastor was preparing to leave when the young woman suddenly remembered something very important to her.

"There's one more thing," she said excitedly. "What's that?" came the pastor's reply. "This is very important." The young woman continued. "I want to be buried with a fork in my right hand." The pastor stood looking at the young woman, not knowing quite what to say. "That surprises you, doesn't it?" the young woman asked. "Well to be honest, I'm puzzled by the request," said the pastor. The young woman explained. "My grandmother once told me this story, and from there on out, I have always done so. I have also, always tried to pass along its message to those I love and those who are in need of encouragement."

In all my years of attending church socials and potluck dinners, I always remember that when the dishes of the main course were being cleared, someone would inevitably lean over and say, "Keep your fork! It was my favorite part because I knew that something better was coming...like velvety chocolate cake or deep-dish apple pie. Something wonderful, and with substance!" So I just want people to see me there in that casket with a fork in my hand and I want them to wonder "What's with the fork?" Then I want you to tell them: "Keep your fork...the best is yet to come." The pastor's eyes welled up with tears of joy as he hugged the young woman good-bye. He knew this would be one of the last times he would see her before her death. But he also knew that the young woman had a better grasp of heaven than he did. She had a better grasp of what heaven would be like than many people twice her age, with twice as much experience and knowledge. She KNEW that something better was coming.

At the funeral people were walking by the young woman's casket and they saw the pretty dress she was wearing and the fork placed in her right hand. Over and over, the pastor heard the question; "What's with the fork?" And over and over he smiled. During his message, the pastor told the people of the conversation he had with the young woman shortly before she died. He also told them about the fork and about what it symbolized to her. The pastor told the people how he could not stop thinking about the fork and told them that they probably would not be able to stop thinking about it either. He was right. So the next time you reach down for your fork, let it remind you ever so gently, that the best is yet to come. Friends are a very rare jewel, indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share a word of praise, and they always want to open their hearts to us. Show your friends how much you care. Remember to always be there for them, even when you need them more. For you never know when it may be their time to "Keep their fork." Cherish the time you have and the memories you share...being friends with someone is not an opportunity but a sweet responsibility.

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

*Keep the Date Open:*

***Rotary Annual Raffle • May 7, 2003***

*Pick up your tickets from Bob Straz if you have not already done so.*

# Signs of the Times

On a Septic Tank Truck sign:  
 "We're #1 in the #2 business."

Sign over a Gynecologist's Office:  
 "Dr. Jones, at your cervix."

At a Proctologist's door  
 "To expedite to your visit please back in."

On a Plumber's truck:  
 "We repair what your husband fixed."

At a Tire Shop in Milwaukee:  
 "Invite us to your next blowout."

At a Towing company:  
 "We don't charge an arm and a leg. We want tows."

On an Electrician's truck:  
 "Let us remove your shorts."

In a Nonsmoking Area:  
 If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and take appropriate action."

On a Maternity Room door:  
 "Push. Push. Push."

At an Optometrist's Office  
 "If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place."

On a Fence:  
 "Salesman welcome! Dog food is expensive."

At the Electric Company:  
 "We would be delighted if you send in your payment.  
 However, if you don't, you will be."

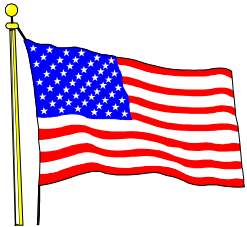
In a Restaurant window:  
 "Don't stand there and be hungry, Come on in and get fed up."

In the front yard of a Funeral Home:  
 "Drive carefully. We'll wait."

At a Propane Filling Station:  
 "Tank heaven for little grills."

And don't forget the sign at a Chicago Radiator Shop:  
 "Best place in town to take a leak."

**Orland Park Rotary Club  
 c/o Silver Lake Country Club  
 P.O. Box 497  
 147th Street & 82nd Ave.  
 Orland Park, IL 60462**



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

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