

Mike Johns, Jr Editor



DISTRICT 6630 NEWS

Steve Zabor District Governor

February 2012

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Governor's Letter

Each month Rotary International identifies a theme and February is World Understanding Month. We are blessed to have a wonderful group of youth exchange students in our district from a wide variety of countries, Ambassadorial Scholars from Germany, Japan and South Korea and a Group Study Exchange team from our district in India right now. These are exceptional opportunities to build understanding of other cultures and to lay the foundation for peace. Please consider inviting any one of the above mentioned people to a meeting to learn from them and to share your understanding of American culture. If you are not a member of the District 6630 Facebook page vou might want to join because I have posted a video and two pictures of our team in India.

February 23rd is the anniversary of Rotary's founding. What a wonderful time to reflect on the contributions Rotary International, through the contributions of time, talent and resources of its members, has made over the years. Think about devoting a meeting to talk about what Rotary has meant to you, to your local community and to communities around the world. It is also a great time to think about the coming Rotary year and how you can improve on the work of Rotary.

All year I have been placing an emphasis on club membership. Without engaged members Rotary International would be ineffective. I have asked each club to put together a plan to recruit new members, retain current members, and, most importantly, to engage current members in the work of the club. I have been impressed as I travel the district with how vibrant many clubs are. Watching people interact and listening to them talk about the work they do in their communities has been inspiring. But we cannot stop. Al Connors, the District Membership Chair, is planning a membership seminar on March 24th. Plan to have representatives attend.

A second emphasis of mine has been the Rotary Foundation. Our gifts to the Rotary Foundation enable us to do more in our local communities and throughout the world to build strong and sustainable communities. Through matching grants that can double your funds for a local project or multiply by three and a half for international projects the Rotary Foundation is the fuel that powers the engine (members) of Rotary enabling us to accomplish near miracles.

To encourage additional support for the Rotary Foundation we have established a new challenge for clubs. Any club that averages \$100 per member (there were 16 last year) and has every member contribute something, a dollar or more, to the Rotary Foundation will receive recognition points to provide a Paul Harris Fellow to a person of the club's choosing. All clubs that have achieved this by April 1 will be recognized at the District Conference of Clubs and any others that have achieved this combination by the end of the Rotary year will receive the Paul Harris Fellow award.

Planning for the District Conference of Clubs is proceeding well. We will be celebrating the work of our clubs this year for their projects to build sustainable communities, for their membership planning, their foundation support, and their work to enhance literacy in Northeast Ohio. Set aside April 13 and 14 for an exciting time to share experiences, learn from fellow Rotarians, and to renew or create new friendships. After all, we are all committed to a common purpose of "Service Above Self."

Yours in Rotary Service, Steve

TRC Hillcrest-Sunrise Coat Drive

Four Way Test Speech Contest Update

By Tony Corrao

On Saturday, January 15, the Rotary Club of Hillcrest-Sunrise had their second annual coat drive. Club members collected over 50 winter coats and delivered them to the homeless shelter at St. Augustine Catholic Church located on West 14th in Cleveland. 5 Rotarians along with family members brought in the coats just prior to the residents of the shelter having lunch. It was heartwarming to see the response... We were welcomed with open arms and many expressed their gratitude

at our generosity. What made it very special was that each coat pocket contained a bag of homemade cookies with a note attached reading "You are Loved".

Our efforts were well received and covered by 3 local TV stations who broadcast the coat drive over that weekend.

Afterwards, club members and their families met for fellowship and a Dim Sum lunch at a Chinese restaurant in Asian Plaza.

Click here to watch news footage



Rotary Radio is ON THE AIR

By Ray Somich

As announced last month, there is now a weekly radio show devoted to promoting Rotary, as well as to promote and inspire service to others. The program is broadcast live every Monday night on WELW 1330am and on the internet at welw.com. Additionally, all programs are archived at welw.com, which means they can be heard any time or downloaded to other portable devices, such as iPods or CD's. Ray Somich, current president of the Willoughby Rotary Club, hosts the weekly program. The following shows were broadcast in January, and are available in the welw.com archives:

1/9/12 District Governor Steve Zabor launched the first Rotary Radio show ever, and helped provide an overview of the history, mission and structure of Rotary.

1/23/12 Scott Pease from the Aurora Rotary Club discussed the District 4-way speech competition for local youth

1/30/12 Dan Fronczak from the Westshore Rotary Club discussed their International Grant Project in Africa, and how local and international dollars can triple the value of every dollar raised locally. They need to raise \$13,000 to purchase a \$40,000 all-purpose truck.

If your club would like to promote its projects, contact Ray Somich at 440-567-8316 to schedule a date for your appearance. Guests are urged to physically come to the Willoughby studio so they will also appear on the live and archived video stream. Happy New Year to all. The big day is getting closer and I have the following new information to pass on to you at this time.

The first item is an important one! Last year a few of the Clubs apparently were not aware that the registration fees for the student participant and the Rotarian accompanying the student were due at the door the day of the event! Please note, ALL registration fees and payments including those for guests of the student are to be paid at the door the day of the event. We do not have the capacity to accept any pre-payments. Please understand that there will be no exceptions! The good news is that the registration fees will stay the same for the students which will be \$50.00 per student. Fees for all others (includes continental breakfast and lunch) will be \$20.00 per person.

On the day of the event, as you arrive at Aurora High School, (see the map on the web page) look for the signs that indicate where to park. They will be prominently displayed next to a smiling Rotarian who will gladly help you with any questions you may have.

Once inside the front doors of the school you will be greeted by an individual who will direct you to the registration desk. The student must register before the event starts. There will be no registration of late arrivals, so please come early! Arrival time should be no later than 8:30am so please plan accordingly.

There will be a continental breakfast and at 9 a.m. I will introduce myself to the group and explain the event and how the day will unfold.

In last month's news letter I mentioned that all Clubs who have a student participating in the event will have the opportunity to share information about their Club and their events to other clubs and to all others in attendance. This will be accomplished by submitting a one page flyer which will be inserted in the event packets. The deadline for receiving these flyers will be one week before the event, Saturday the 24th of March. If your flyers are not received by then they will not be made available in the student's packet. This opportunity will only be available to Clubs that have a student participating in the speech event. Please remember that your flyer is limited to one single white 8.5x11 page of information. No colors and no additional pages will be accepted. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this please feel free to contact me personally at the number listed below. Flyers can be sent to:

> Scott Pease P.O. Box 525 Aurora, OH 44202

I am happy to announce that amounts for the awards this year will be significantly increased for the finalists as follows: 1st Place - \$750; 2nd Place - \$650; 3rd Place - \$550; 2 Honorable Mention awards -\$200 each.

My Best To All, Scott Pease Rotary District 6630 Four Way Test Speech Competition Chair

Rotarians Partner with Young Professionals

By Jerry Jarzabek

When Anne Kelly joined the Rotary Club of Cleveland two years ago, she joined for the networking and business connections. She knew that Rotary would be a good way to get involved in the community, give back a little bit, and develop a stronger network in Cleveland after spending 10 years as a



"road warrior" for a national management consulting firm. What she didn't realize is that Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self" would hit home in the way that it did and prompt her to found a quarterly happy hour that is gaining some trac-



tion here in Cleveland - Drinks ported a simple way of giving for Do-Gooders.



About a year and a half ago, the

of

were

story

Lost Boys **EDITOR'S NOTE** the Sudan **BE SURE TO MOVE YOUR CURSOR** the featured OVER THE GRAPHICS OR PICTURES speakers at FOUND IN THIS DOCUMENT... MANY the Thurs-OF THEM ARE LINKS TO VIDEOS, day Rotary WEBSITES, PICTURES OR OTHER luncheon and their **GOODIES** in-

spired Anne to start making a difference, "I had the honor of sitting next to one of these men and hearing his personal story" says Anne, "and it changed me forever." Not long after this luncheon Anne founded Drinks for Do-Gooders, a happy hour where for the cost of a drink, people could get together and do a little good. The first event raised \$350 for the Lost Boys. "The Rotary Club really got behind this concept, and supback to the community" says Anne. "Then the Cleveland Professional 20/30 Club asked if they could partner with us on these events and it allowed me to see the potential."

Today, Drinks for Do-Gooders meets on a quarterly basis. The cover charge is now \$20 but includes a drink ticket and appe-

> tizers. The group has raised between \$1,400 and \$2400 for worthwhile cause s i n Northeast Ohio.

What has Anne learned from her experience founding Do-Gooders through Rotary? "Giving back doesn't have to be complicated. Rotary sponsors the food and the 20/30 Club



sponsors a portion of the drink ticket. We either hold a 50/50 raffle or like at the past two events, we've raffled off a 60" flat screen TV donated by Best-Buy. I didn't think one person with an idea could really accomplish much, but you can build something amazing if you believe in it have the support of a great organization like Rotary."

On Friday January 27, The Do-Gooders raised \$2400 for Ohio City Writers, a new non-profit here in Cleveland that helps at risk youth develop confidence and critical thinking skills through creative writing. The money raised will pay for their rent for the rest of the year (and then some) giving them a real opportunity to get the program up and running!

To learn more about Drinks for Do-Gooders, including nominating your charity to be the beneficiary of a happy hour or to donate a raffle prize, you can e m a i l Anne a t drinks4good@yahoo.com. And remember, "Come out, Have a Drink, and DO SOME GOOD!"

DG Sets EREY Challenge

By Rick Cooper

At PETS-1 Governor Steve announced that special recognition will be given to every club achieving an average of \$100 per member and with every member making a contribution (EREY) to The Rotary Foundation. The incentive is a Paul Harris Fellow for your club to use in any way that it sees fit. If your club attains that level by March 30th, your club will be recognized at the Conference of Clubs. All clubs achieving this goal by the end of the Rotary year will be awarded a Paul Harris Fellow they can designate to any recipient of their club.

Last February/March your current president was required to submit a club Foundation Goal Form for this Rotary year. The Every Rotarian Every Year form suggests that your club contribute \$100 for every member in your club. I know that every club has a different makeup, but this goal should be a priority for all of the clubs in District 6630. Your contributions ensure that Rotarians can continue promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water, saving mothers and children, supporting education, and nurturing local economies. Without the help of every club, none of this

is possible.

In order for your club to have EREY recognition, every member of your club must donate something, and the club's average contribution must be \$100 per member. In simple terms if you have 20 members in your club, your EREY goal would be \$2,000. A member that donated more than \$100 could be counted towards a member that gave less than \$100. The important point is that every member of your club makes the effort to contribute what they feel they can afford every year to The Rotary Foundation.

It's up to each and every one of us to lead the campaign to reach the goal and achieve for your club Every Rotarian Every Year recognition. TRF Direct is the easiest and most efficient way to accomplish the goal for this year and beyond. TRF Direct forms are available on the District's Website by clicking on the Rotary Foundation tab listed under Site Pages. We will never know what we can accomplish unless we try.

Please feel free to ask me how I can help you reach your goal.

Rcooper038@sbcglobal.net

TRC Berea President Honored By City

By Linda Kramer

Michael Orr, president of the Rotary Club of Berea, was honored at Mayor Cyril Kleem's annual Spirit of Community Awards banquet on Jan. 24. Mike was one of three Berea residents recognized for outstanding volunteerism. Mayor Kleem called Mike "our go-to guy." He volunteers at most city events and festivals, supervising hayrides during the Harvest Festival and helping with the Light Up Berea Parade in December, for example. "If we need a volunteer, Mike will be there for us," the mayor said. Mike received the key to the city embedded in a crystal trophy.



REVERSE RAFFLE & AUCTION: TRC Berea's major fundraiser, the annual Reverse Raffle and Silent Auction, will be March 31 at the Cleveland Browns Training Facility, 76 Lou Groza Blvd. in Berea. Guests will park in the players' parking lot. The event will be on the Browns indoor practice field. Cocktails begin at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. There will be

sideboards and a chance to win the grand prize of \$2,500. Tickets are \$100. Contact Mike Orr, (440) 382-6283, mikeorrberearotary@gmail.com or President-elect Consolina Templeman, (440) 781-1370, consolinatempleman@att.net.

DONATION TO SENIORS: The Rotary Club of Berea Foundation donated funds for the purchase of a GE stove for the Active Senior Network, Berea's program for senior citizens. The Active Senior Network Room is housed at the Recreation Center and has a kitchen but needed a stove to help with the preparation of meals and snacks for special programs. Berea Rotary's president-elect Consolina Templeman is the retired coordinator of the Active Senior Network and facilitated the donation. A plaque at the entrance to the Rec Center and another in the kitchen thanks Rotary for the gift.

TRACING YOUR HERITAGE: The Rev. Patrick Hunt, pastor of Heritage Congregational Church, presented a multi-media program on tracing his family tree. Rev. Hunt explained the many resources available and the roadblocks encountered when researchers try to locate records on past generations of family members. He even had his DNA tested to help find a link. The research can be painstaking and time-consuming but Rev. Hunt said the results were very gratifying and educational.

OTHER SPEAKERS: Other programs included a presentation by Laurel Wirtanen-Silov of the Strongsville Rotary



Club who explained a proposed Rotary project to provide clean drinking water to remote areas of The Philippines. Dr. David Krueger of Baldwin-Wallace College explained the college's innovative sustainability major.

KIVA LOANS: Ken Weber, Berea Rotary Kiva chair, has made 242 loans to date. The latest \$25 loans went to entrepreneurs in Cambodia (farming), Azerbaijan (cattle), Rwanda (agriculture), Pakistan (farm supplies), Georgia (two for farming), Philippines (farming and pigs), Ukraine (farm supplies), Bolivia (farming), Mali (farm supplies), Tajikistan (farming) and Armenia (cattle). To learn more about Kiva loans, go to www.kiva.org.

IN MEMORIAM: Berea Rotarians mourn the passing of long-time member Gale Root on Jan. 6. He had been an active member of Rotary for 25 years. Gale was a retired representative of New York Life, for which he had worked for 50 years. He is survived by his wife, Rose, two children and six grandchildren. Memorial contributions can be made to Church Street Ministries, 398 W. Bagley Road, Berea 44017.



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The International Assembly Experience

By Julie West

As the final step in my formal training in preparation for becoming District Governor, Gary and I attended the International Assembly in San Diego. It was an incredible experience, bringing together my fellow District Governors-Elect from all over the world, along with past, present, and future RI Presidents and Directors as well as RI Trainers. We experienced the internationality beginning with our trip to the hotel from the airport when we shared the bus with many of the Brazilian DGEs and their partners, wearing ties and scarves brightly colored with yellow and green.

The training sessions were a combination of whole group plenary sessions, mid-sized group panel discussions, and small group workshops with all but the small group workshops being translated into seven languages. There were many highlights. Here are a few:

RI President Elect Sakuji Tanaka introduced the theme for next Rotary year: Peace Through Service. He explained

"Meals on Wheels" Geauga Keeps Rolling Along

By Ken Douthit

Mary Ann Deatsch from the Geauga County Department of Aging is the coordinator for the Home Delivered Meals program administered by the Department and spoke to the Chagrin Valley Rotary at its January 17 meeting.

Prior to 1995, the county's Department of Aging was dependent on the federal government for their limited budget. In 1995, Geauga County residents passed a Senior Services Levy to provide funding for programs for the county's senior citizens. The department's budget grew from \$250,000 to \$1,500,000. The Department handles many services for the elderly. The levy was renewed in 2010 with an increase that begins this year and goes through 2016. Currently, the department receives 84% of its budget from the levy. The Federal Government and donations each represent 8% of the revenues for the department.

The Home Delivered Meals program at that time was divided between three dif-

that peace means different things to different people. It is not only the absence of war or conflict. For some it is inner serenity; for others, it is having basic needs such as food, shelter and clean water being met. Rotarians, through our service projects, our exchange programs, and our scholars truly do work toward peace.

We celebrated the first polio free year in India and surpassing the \$200 million challenge from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. But we also heard that we need to stay the course until all countries have been polio free for three years. And we learned from the CEO from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation that they are committing another \$50M to polio eradication.

TRF Chair Bill Boyd gave us an update on Future Vision, currently being piloted in 100 Districts world-wide, which seeks to increase the impact of our service projects by concentrating on six broad areas of focus and emphasizing sustainability. Future Vision is scheduled to be implemented in all Districts in 2013-2014.

ferent programs. In April of 1997, two of the programs were merged and the department began its Home Delivered Meals program. It was the goal of the department that eligible seniors would not have to wait and that no one would be turned away. There is no charge for the service but seniors may make a donation if they wish. By 2011, the department was serving 185 meals a day to 329 seniors. The program receives its food from a Youngstown company and it costs \$4.95 per meal.

The program is very dependent on volunteers. In fact, the Chagrin Valley Rotary Club currently delivers on Monday and Friday. Our participation was spearheaded by Bill Houghton, who had participated in a program in New York prior to moving to the Chagrin Valley. Currently, Sam Desiderio is the chairperson of the Home Delivered Meals program. The Chardon Rotary, Christ Child Society and The West Geauga Kiwanis are three groups that also volunteered their member's time to help deliver meals. And the experiences continued throughout our meals and into the evenings. One morning Gary and I had breakfast with two past RI Presidents. One lunch we had a conversation about Group Study Exchange and Future Vision with an RI Director. During the week, we ate dinner with people from South Korea, Venezuela, Chile, Russia, Denmark, and many other countries. On International Festival Night participants marched into dinner by country, with many in their traditional dress. And our last evening featured the International Talent Night with performances by the District Governor-Elects from twenty zones from all over the world.

You don't have to be a District Governor-Elect to have experiences like these. RI Conventions bring Rotarians together from across the world, offer inspirational speakers, and provide outstanding entertainment. This year's RI Convention is being held in Bangkok, Thailand, May 6th-9th.

District Literacy Award

By Beth Shriver

Last year our district had fifteen clubs that received the Literacy Award. This year, hopefully, there will be more. It is easy to earn this award. A club needs to complete five literacy activities in a Rotary year. A sampling of these activities are: the dictionary or a comparable project, a speaker related to literacy such as a teacher or literacy program speaker, provide scholarships, participate in the Four-Way Speech Contest, and/or participate in our District literacy project for Battered Women shelters. These are only a few of many suggestions. More information on the award including the form to apply is on the District Website. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Beth Shriver, District Literacy Coordinator at:

bethee10@roadrunner.com

or 216-570-9428.

Interact Fundraiser

By Michelle Klein-Neville

The North Royalton/Broadview Heights Interact Club recently completed their first fundraiser. They held a dinner in joint cooperation with "Dinner in the Dark". "Dinner in the Dark", brings together six different chefs each month, cooking together, often for the first time, at a different restaurant. The participating chefs and the menu for the evening is not revealed until the guests arrive, keeping them 'in the dark'. Ticket proceeds benefit a local charity agreed upon by the participating chefs. The chefs chose to work with the Interact group to raise funds to help a local family facing medical and other expenses due to an accident involving their son. The students from the Interact Club chose this as their first local service project due to the fact many of the students personally knew the injured boy. As we all know, medical bills can be extremely high, and the family was faced with not only helping their son through this ordeal, but handling growing bills as well. The Interact students raised a great deal of money through this fundraiser to help the family with any needs and to show community support.



This photo is of the students presenting cards and a check to the family and the injured student.



News From TRC Strongsville

The big news from our Club is that one of our members, Carol Dombrose is part of the Exchange Team that is visiting India. Carol is blogging back to Club members. Ironically enough we had a guest Rotarian from India visit our Club this morning. I am trying to get his name.

Our International Student had a slow week due to the mid-term exams at the High School. She is having a good time and is involved in all of the activities of the Club. She was at our Breakfast with Santa and later that day at The Mall for a Marrow Bone Drive. She is a delight to talk with and her diary will be quite full by the time she returns home.

This Saturday night many of our Club Members will be attending the Arts of Strongsville Annual Fund Raiser at the Rec Center. And then on Sunday our Annual Chili Open Cook-off+ at the VFW Post. One of our recent winners called his dish, ROAD KILL. I HEARD IT WAS QUITE GOOD.

On February 17, 18, 19 at the NORTH COAST GOLF SHOW HELD AT THE IX CENTER come visit our booth and see how we promote Rotary International to the 15,000 attendees while promoting our event. I guarantee you will be impressed with our booth. We actually visit with many Rotarians from all over the State. So treat yourself and your other half to a night out. We are in Booths 524 -526. You can buy your Masters Tickets at the Show as well.

OUR BIG CHILI OPEN CHARITY EVENT is less than 30 days away. We are having weekly meetings until the day of the Event. We certainly invite the entire District to join us on Saturday February 25, 2012 at the Berea Fairgrounds on Bagley Road in Berea. Shake off the rust, bring your pitching wedge and putter and join us. Cost is \$ 120.00 for a foursome. The price includes food all day long and beer as well.

The Live Auction starts at 10 am and go to 4 pm. Our Grand Prize for the drawing is the Indians Loge and includes \$500 for food and 2 parking passes. Tickets are 6 for \$ 5.00. The Indians will be a competitive team in 2012 so take a chance. This event supplies the funds for the 10 charities we vote on and change every year as well as making donations for the rest of the year. You can buy your Masters Tickets here as well. In fact the drawing will be held at the 4 o'clock that day. IF YOU HAVE-N'T HEARD THE MASTERS TICKET IS THE HARDEST ONE TO GET IN ALL OF SPORTS.

Finally, our speaker this morning was from NASA and the future looks good for space travel. It is just going to be different. Now the Russians are the taxi to the Space Station for the near term future. The Chinese are going strong and may catch up. However Private Enterprise is on the scene and with

no government regulations to get in the way, the future is very bright and maybe we can put a Rotarian in Space.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack Miaskowski



Strongsville Rotary Chili Open

By Ken McEntee

Winter fun for all

You don't have to be a golfer to have a B'last at the Chili Open Golf Classic.

Of course, for the hard core veterans of the charity event that has netted almost \$1.4 million for local charities and Rotary projects at home and around the world, it just wouldn't be a Northeast Ohio winter without 18 blustery holes of challenging golf at the Cuyahoga County Fair-grounds.

But those who prefer warm indoor fun will be thrilled to know that that the 21st Annual B'laster Chili Open Golf Classic, organized by the Rotary Club of Strongsville, also will feature a high-intensity celebrity auction and hourly raffles, along with all the food and beverages they can consume. As always, hot Wendy's chili will highlight the endless buffet.

The 2012 Chili Open will be held on Saturday, February 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$40 at the door, but you can save big bucks by registering online by February 15 for \$35 per ticket, or \$120 per foursome.

Celebrity auction

"The Chili Open is the best kept secret in Northeast Ohio," opines Bob Hale, Cleveland's most sought-after benefit auctioneer. "It is truly a great event."

Bob, owner of Benefit Auction Services, peddles tens of thousands of dollars worth of donated items every year at the Chili Open celebrity auction, which features some of some of Cleveland's top radio and television personalities and athletes, who help Bob raise money for local charities and humanitarian Rotary projects.

This year's roster of celebrity auctioneers who have helped to make the Chili Open an annual B'last are Jim McIntyre, WDOK 102.1 FM; Bev DeWitt, Sun Star Courier; Mike Snyder, WTAM 1100 AM; Jimmy Malone, WMJI 105.7 FM; Tiffani Tucker, Danielle Serino and Harry Boomer, WOIO TV Channel 19; Bruce Kalinowski, Dave Summers and Betsy Kling, WKYC TV Channel 3; and Mike Pagel, former Cleveland Browns quarterback.

Always at the center of the non-stop auction excitement are the Hat Guys—also known as the Mad Hatters—a group of high energy buds who assemble once a year to eat, drink and buy stuff. The Hat Guys have been fixtures at every Chili Open since the event began.

"The Chili Open is a great event with a fun atmosphere and it's all for a great cause," says Bill Henry, the top hatter. "We had just two of us at the first Chili Open. The next year we brought two more and it grew from there."

Raffles

The Chili Open has hour 50/50 raffles, along with a grand prize raffle the features a dugout loge for 10 at a Cleveland Indians game – a \$5,000 value. Other prizes include a \$350 shopping spree at the Wal-Mart of Strongsville, and a 32-inch flat screen TV.

Food

The huge spread of eats, as always, will feature hot Wendy's chili and plenty of cold beer.

Charity

Each year, a group of local charitable organizations is selected to received proceeds from the event. Chili Open proceeds have provided hope to adults and children with disabilities and diseases, assisted the terminally ill in hospice care, encouraged disadvantaged youth through academic programs and scholarships and supported such cultural programs as the Singing Angels.

This year's charity beneficiaries are

- * Achievement Centers for Children - Camp Cheerful
- * Applewood Centers
- * Asha For Education
- * Boys Hope / Girls Hope
- * Easter Seals
- * Jimmy Malone Scholarship
- * Lighthouse Inc.
- * Malachi House
- * Rose-Mary Center

* Youth Opportunities Unlimited

Sponsors

The Strongsville Rotary Club organizes the Chili Open, but it's the generous support of sponsors like Title Sponsor B'laster Chemical that makes it happen. Chili Open offers area businesses a wonderful opportunity to promote themselves in a fun way, while providing vital support to area charities that give care and joy to thousands of children and adults. Sponsorships range between \$200 to sponsor a tee and \$16,000 for the title sponsorship. With that investment, a business can help provide essential financial assistance to carefully selected organizations that depend on donations to carry on their work. At the same time, sponsors receive valuable exposure.

You can register online or get more information at www.chiliopen.org or by calling the Chili Open Hotline, at 216-898-4719.

2012 Major Sponsors

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Feb: World Understanding Month

By Richard S. Pollak

This month's Foundation Thoughts are about ...

Supporting the Foundation. "The Rotary Foundation has been so effective because it matches money with people. In the words of Arch Klumph: 'Money alone does little good. Individual service is helpless without money. The two together can be a Godsend to civilization.'" From A Century of Service: The Story of Rotary International by David C. Forward

Hunger. Can you imagine 854 million dollars, 854 million candy bars, 854 million diamond rings, 854 million people? We all have difficulty in imagining this number, but for the 854 million people who live with chronic hunger, it is not something they try to imagine, but something they must try to survive. Malnutrition is the largest single contributor to disease; it imposes crushing economic burdens on the developing world. Freedom from hunger and malnutrition is a basic human right, and The Rotary Foundation is working to alleviate hunger and malnutrition. Many of the Matching Grants that the Foundation funds are for projects working toward this end of hunger. Every day, Rotarians take action to end the tragedy of world hunger. Make your annual gift today.

Service. "Having fun while helping others is what Rotary is all about. Too often we forget that giving of our money, our time, and our talent to help others through The Rotary Foundation and through local community service projects is one of the most important ways that Rotarians have fun. Sometimes it is working together on a local hands-on service project or fundraiser. Sometimes it is informing people about all that Rotary does for both the world and our local community through The Rotary Foundation. And sometimes it is just that warm, satisfied feeling that comes from knowing we are helping others." – Rotarian Ronn Kerr

Annual giving. Rotarian Treacy Duerfeldt asks, "If two-thirds of the world – about four billion people – can live on \$2 per day, then shouldn't the rest give at least that much?" Consider making your annual gift today.

Gift of Life North East Ohio Benefit

Many of our District Rotarians are well aware of and or participated with PDG Jim Frame of The Mantua Club in his 24/7 Saving Children's Lives though his North East Ohio Gift of Life activities. Many of us are not only his Rotary acquaintance but are also pleased to be considered as his Friend.

Jim's work since his first involvement with in 2003 to date with Gift of Life North

East Ohio has provided Life Saving Operations to some 286 Children of which 49 were done in our own North East Ohio area. Jim has brought many of the Children and their Parents out to several of our District 6630 Clubs and events.

Gift of Life International has to date saved 10,000 Children's lives following its Founding in New York in 1975

by PDG Robbie Donno a Good friend of PDG Jim Frame and Ken Fogel. PDG Robbie Donno and other Members of The International Gift of Life Board from New York will be at the event. Jim is also an International Gift of Life Board Member.

The February 18th Benefit Dinner Evening activities to support North East Ohio Gift Of Life Inc. and Jim Frame's Kids is well in place with a strong agenda relating to the service of saving lives for Global Children that Our Own PDG Jim Frame's dedicated action has provided .

As of 2-3-12 Just 16 days before the Benefit event we have only 70 people signed up to attend. Our planning has been at the 200 level. However no matter how many attend The Tribute and response for North East Ohio Gift of Life Jim's Kids is deeply appreciated. We thank all of those that are able to attend and for those that have made contributions to the event. We do hope that others can find a way to join with us where possible. We need to get the total number of attendees in place ASAP due to the venues requirement for attendance meal planning.

This Benefit is a combined project of all the communities of N.E.Ohio, Rotary District 6630 and various members of the Medical communities. Ticket costs will be \$75.00 per person (\$40.00 Tax Deductible) and can be purchased at: Gift of Life Benefit, P.O. Box 6651 Akron, Ohio 44312-6651 or by

JIM'S KIDS BENEFIT



email -c/o PDG Stew Buchanan, stewb1898@aol.com. You can also provide him by phone your credit card information at 330-607-1442 All clubs of District 6630 are asked to participate. Contributions are welcomed.

Attached is the Ticket order form.

Thank you,

Committee - Gift of Life North East Ohio Inc. Jim's Kid's 2-18-12 Benefit Committee

PDG Gordon Keller - Kent Stan Socha - Brunswick DG Stew Buchanan - Akron PDG Tim Wright Sr. – Willoughby David Hansford – Kent PDG Al Conners – Aurora DGE Julie West – Cleveland Jimmie Suphtin - Hudson PDG Bob Prevette - Nordonia Hills



61 Year Rotarian Passes

By Jon Stevenson

The Jefferson Club is mourning the loss of one of its members, Stewart Case, who was a faithful and dedicated Rotarian for 61 years, joining in 1950. During his years of service Stu exemplified the meaning of being a Rotarian not only within the club but in the community at large. During his years in Rotary he served at one time or another on all committees and fund raisers and was president in 1963.

Stu was a WWII vet who served in the Pacific Theater for two years immediately after high school. He obtained a degree in pharmacy from Ohio State and remained a dedicated Buckeye fans for his entire life. He was an Eagle Scout, a volunteer fireman, a member of the American legion and the Masonic Lodge, a village councilman for 16 years, he was chairman of the March of Dimes, and started the Jefferson United Way. No wonder in 1967 he was voted Man of the Year and nominated in 2011 as Citizen of the Year for Ashtabula County.



Stu will be missed by family and all those in and outside of Rotary.





Rotary International Conventions

By Neal Klabunde

The Rotary International (RI) Convention is held annually, usually in June. The purpose is to bring Rotarians together from all over the world to celebrate the past Rotary year and herald the new one.

The convention officially begins with the opening plenary session. This session features the stirring "Parade of Flags" where the flags of every nation in the world where Rotary is represented are presented. With more nations represented than at the Olympics, this event more than anything else, truly shows the international scope of RI.

During the convention there are various official activities such as meetings and plenary sessions where the business of Rotary is conducted. Other activities are available, some of which require that you register for them with your convention registration. There are usually side-trips and events planned for families and spouses of Rotarians that are planned by the host organizing committee (HOC).

You can also-

Gather materials at the information booth about local activities.

Visit next year's convention booth, and register in advance.

Enjoy the House of Friendship, including the Internet cafe, local entertainment, message board, and fine local cuisine.

Visit Global Networking Group booths to find out more about the many vocational and recreational fellowships and action groups.

Visit the Club and District Projects Exhibition to learn about what other clubs and districts are doing to serve others.

Shop for Rotary items at RIlicensed vendor booths and purchase local products at the HOC's Business Expo.

The "House of Friendship" is an area where convention goers can relax, make new friendships and renew old ones.

The actual cost of the convention is under \$200.00 but there are various luncheons and banquets that you may want to register for at the same time. Once you register, you will receive information from the host committee about local events they have planned for visiting Rotarians. Additional costs are those normally associated with travel such as air fare, lodging and meals. Some clubs budget for the President and spouse to attend the convention if they so desire.

The Rotary Club of Hamden, Connecticut sponsors pre- and post- convention tours of the country hosting the convention. This is their big fundraiser, much like our Chili Open.

There is also the opportunity for visiting Rotarians to visit the homes of local Rotarians to sample and enjoy the local customs.

Due to the international nature of Rotary, the conventions are held in different cities around the world to give all Rotarians a chance to attend this inspiring event. The convention is typically held in North America every three years or so.

Cathy and I, along with our girls have had the privilege to attend three of these events-Calgary, Alberta Canada, Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Indianapolis, Indiana. We encourage you to try to make it to one of the upcoming conventions. You will come back with renewed enthusiasm and respect for our organization.

District Conference of Clubs

Planning for the 2012 District Conference of Clubs is proceeding extremely well. There are many Rotarians across District 6630 who are involved in planning and implementing the event. The overall focus is on "Building Sustainable Communities Through Rotary." Friday we will have two wonderful speakers addressing Building Communities from the ground up. At our luncheon meeting we will have Jim Rokakis, executive director of the Thriving Communities Institute, and in the evening Pennye Nixon-West, the executive director of the Etta Projects, will talk about their work in Bolivia that was inspired by her daughter who died during her youth exchange program in Bolivia. We will also have our Paul Harris celebration that evening. During the afternoon on Friday we will have panels of district Rotarians talking about their successful local and international projects including a panel on literacy projects. The afternoon will conclude with a presentation by our inbound and outbound GSE teams.

Saturday's lunch meeting will have the top three Four-Way Speech contestants present their entries. In the afternoon there will be a special program on vocations and community development in our district. This program should be of special interest to members of our Interact and Rotaract clubs. We will also be providing information about places to visit and tour in the Cuyahoga Falls area.

Saturday night we will be pinning our outbound youth exchange students, celebrating heroes nominated by our clubs and hearing about one influential individual's contributions to his community.

Throughout the weekend we will have fun, build the community of Rotary in Northeast Ohio, learn from one another and contribute to Rotary's success in our communities. Clubs will have an opportunity to display their projects and to gain new ideas to improve their impact on their local and international communities. At least two service projects will coincide with the Conference. The Mentor club will be promoting their Bone Marrow project and we will be collecting new and gently used books, games and toys for the Northeast Ohio shelters for victims of domestic violence. These are just some of the activities being planned. See you there!!

Baby Nam in Thailand: 3 Months Old

By Alan Monroe

A Thai mother gave birth to a baby on board an evacuation boat last October, during what were described as the worst floods to hit Thailand in 50 years. Baby Nam spent the first month of her life living in a ShelterBox tent with her family before moving back to their house in Rangsit once the floodwaters receded. A ShelterBox Operations team carrying out a monitoring and evaluation program met with baby Nam, her mother and 60-year old grandmother to see what life has been like since US-based Response Team volunteer Scott Robinson first met them three months before at the evacuation center.



Baby Nam in the arms of UK-based ShelterBox Response Team (SRT) member and Operations Assistant Rebecca Ridgeway in Thailand.

UK-based ShelterBox's Operations Coordinator Dr. Alison Ashlin, Operations Assistant Rebecca Ridgeway and Scott spoke to Ladda Bangkeaw, Nam's mother, in their home in Rangsit.

"I gave birth to Nam on the evacuation boat as my home had flooded leaving me with no electricity and nowhere to sit and lay down," said Ladda. "It was a relief to reach the evacuation center, but for Nam's first five days of her life we lived in an overcrowded hallway there. Then I met Scott who gave us a ShelterBox tent to live in giving us not just privacy, but dignity too. The tent was very comfortable and I was able to recover from the birth and look after Nam."

"Coming home was a shock, the house was a mess and most of our possessions had been ruined by the floods. However, I was so happy that we had survived and ShelterBox had helped us do this. We are now slowly rebuilding our lives."



Three-month old baby Nam with her mother Ladda Bangkeaw.

"Although this family has very little, Nam is a healthy, happy baby," said Alison. "Her birth weight was just under three kilograms and three months on she now weighs four kilograms. Ladda said she was very happy to see Scott and the rest of us. She asked how we had managed to find her and explained that she thought we had forgotten about her. She was so happy she said she could cry. It was a very emotional moment for her and us."



SRT members Scott Robinson (US), Rebecca Ridgeway (UK) with Ladda, Nam and her 60-year old Grandmother Samang Trekumpan at their home in Rangsit.

The ShelterBox Operations team have now completed the evaluation program in Thailand that was carried out to improve ShelterBox's speed of delivery and overall response to disasters. They collected feedback from beneficiaries, spoke to in-country partners and assessed the conditions of the tents in the flood-hit areas.

World Understanding and Peace Day, February 23rd

Adapting the Four-Way Test Into Our Lives

Barry A Becker

The Four-Way Test can also be referred to as ethics, guiding principles, or standards. The concept is to consciously attempt to operate at a higher level to guide our actions

so that a quality decision is made that is truthful, fair to all concerned, build goodwill and better friendships, and be beneficial to all concerned.

In business the bottom line is operating at a profit. However; to do so by cutting corners,

misrepresentation, taking unfair advantage, or acting with malice or dishonesty cheapens the process. To do these things endangers people, corrupts our character, and eases taking further out of bounds steps in future actions. Once you've strayed it becomes increasingly easier each time to go further out-ofbounds. This may lead to illegal activities that when discovered will cause legal ramifications. Protecting one's character is essential as once one's reputation is lost, it can never be regained. Operating loosely inevitably will cause a downfall.

Humans make mistakes from which we can learn a lesson, but inventing an excuse makes it not a mistake. Our failings with lessons learned can lead to greater heights.

Just think of Abraham Lincoln. He had many failures in business, law, and in politics. However, he rose to be President and is generally considered one of the best Presidents if not the best. Sunday February 12th will mark Honest Abe's birth-date. Note well the moniker Honest that typifies how he approached life.

Personal integrity comes with a price. Sometimes doing the right thing can lead to derision by others. Don't be swayed by unkind words, analyze was it the right thing to do? Taking false credit sometimes is inviting, but sharing the credit when it's due is the correct choice because it is the truth, it is the fair thing to do, such an action will be appreciated, and thus is beneficial to all concerned.

Adapting the four-way test into your life is important in becoming a true Rotarian. With it as an integral part of your life will assure that you won't become a RINO (Rotarian in name only). Truly great things can happen when we park our egos at the door. Rotary always delivers greater results than the collective contributions of each participant! I have observed this many times to be true.

Rotary is non-sectarian, but does include some religious elements drawn from the breadth and depth of commonsense and religious philosophy. These influences are diverse, and allow one to best approach situations.

Day In Court Sponsored By TRC Conneaut

CONNEAUT - Conneaut Municipal Court Judge Thomas Harris admits that the day that Conneaut Middle School 8th grade essay winners read their "My Day In Court" essays to the Conneaut Rotary Club is one of his favorite days of the year.

"People think that I select the winners or that I've read the essays, but I don't hear them until the students read them out loud," Harris said Tuesday at the Conneaut Rotary Club luncheon at the Conneaut Community Center for the Arts.

Harris, and the "My Day In Court" sponsor, the Conneaut Rotary Club, have a right to be proud of the program. In its 23rd year, Conneaut's "My Day In Court" is the longestrunning municipal court-topublic-school program in Ohio. And as the winning student essays indicate, the program is also successful in teaching students a consequence of bad choices.

All Conneaut Middle School students participate in the field trip, which consists of spending a half-day in Harris' courtroom. Afterward, they must write essays about their visit. Six essays are chosen as winners, and the authors read their winning essays to the Rotary Club each December, then receive a \$25 cash prize.

Teasing the students that no money changes hands until after their essays are read, Harris said the prize provides the students with spending money at holiday time.

Then he sat back to hear what the winner had to say about their visit to his courtroom. Ashley Alexander, who aspires to become a lawyer, wrote that she "cherished" the courtroom experience. "There was tension and anxiety in the courtroom," she wrote. Winner Marcus Barrickman wrote that he was thankful that he saw no one he knew in court. He also noted that not a single defendant had been able to afford to pay a court fine that day. "You don't realize how good you have it," he read. Rylie Pryately wrote that she learned that making poor choices gets you in a lot of trouble, and that driving while talking on a cell phone or texting can be dangerous. Writing that the courtroom trip was "good for my future," she stated that she would like to go back. Breana Sprinkle wrote that observing from the jury box showed her what not to do. "I hope I never go to court for doing something

bad," she wrote. "Thank you for the experience." Ricky Fuller said he learned what happens to Conneaut residents who do not file their income tax. "It teaches you about the responsibility of adulthood," he said. Rashad al -Araibi summed it up best in his conclusion that nearly every case he heard during his day in court involved the abuse of drugs and alcohol. "This proves to me that the easiest way to stay out of trouble is to avoid these harmful substances," he said. "I believe this life choice will provide for a longer, safe, happier life not only for me, but also my family as I mature."

In speaking to students in September prior to the start of the "My Day In Court" field trip, Harris had warned that his courtroom would be noth-

Cont'd on pg. 12 🐨

Why The Rotary Foundation is Important to Our Family

Day in Court cont'd

By Jack Harig, PDG 2003-04

Our story goes back to the Rotary Club of Barberton and a Rotarian by the Name of George Brown. Let me first say, "Understanding the Foundation" is not enough! To know Rotary is to know your fellow Rotarians, who they are, what they do vocationally, what their passions are and what they stand for personally. When you get to know Rotary, then you understand what Rotary stands for. You know what Rotary does, and how Rotarians with great dreams and modest recourse can be part of a body of likeminded men and women with a passion to do great things. Bonded together these Rotarians become passionate. They gain a new understanding of Rotary. They begin to understand how limitations to success are removed. They see how their own lives are changed, how the lives of families all over the world are changed for the better. They understand that every Rotarian's personal legacy is not only what they do today but the impact they make on the New Generations. George Brown taught the Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Barberton the impact they could have when they developed a passion for mission. George made Barberton a 100% Paul Harris Club, some through the sustaining member approach, \$100.00 every year, others larger amounts each year until they reached their goal of Paul Harris Fellow and some by just writing their check.

For me that first Paul Harris Fellow was a challenge. When Rotary accepted the Polio Eradication Challenge I had caught the vision, I was hooked and it was easy.

Our road to understanding the legacy we could leave started with George, it was given a boost when Mike Johns, PRID lead the first round for Polio Eradication in District 6630 and asked many of us for help. Our understanding of Rotary and the Rotary International Foundation was further mentored by PRID Jules Flock and PDG Jim Banks; they both knew and lived Rotary. By the late 1980's PDG Bonnie Housely started explaining the easy way to do more to build the foundation through the Bequest Society. At the time, my wife, Vivian & I were revising our estate planning. I joined the Bequest Society by placing a modest bequest in my will. Vivian was not all that sure. She felt she wanted her estate to be handled by someone she knew and trusted, and in fact she was a bit skeptical about what I had done. Time passed as Vivian saw the results of Polio Plus, the impact of water wells, the lives changed with the Shelter Box program, the education of the Girl Child and the "Lend A Hand" theme of PRIP Jonathan B. Maiivagbe, RI Pres. when I became District Governor in 2003/04.

I came home one day and Vivian said since you are Governor "Don't you think it would be nice for us to make our children Paul Harris Fellows and maybe some of the grandchildren?" Now we find out who is the slow learner, me! My reaction was "What, you are talking about; you mean real dollars right now? When I made my bequest you seemed really upset. "The Foundation has to wait for me to die before they get my money and now you want to give them a bundle of real money right now?"

The answer was simple, Vivian understood. She got the feel and passion for the excellent way our foundation manages Rotarians money, the bang for the buck, the positive impact on lives that we as individuals and families can make as part of the family of Rotary that would be impossible alone. When God provided us with some substantial extra funds that we could live without, Vivian suggested we make a major legacy gift to the Rotary International Foundation through a charitable Remainder Trust we had established. At the time we did not realize it but the size of the gift we were able to make qualified us to become part of the Arch Klumph Society. We made it with confidence in our God that our lives and the lives of our family will live on and serve long after our energy fades and our lives pass away. Rotary is trustworthy and we live with the knowledge that the foundation will carry on our work, the work we believe in and Rotarian George Brown helped us understand Please consider your legacy.

If we can be of service to you by getting together for some fireside chats with you or members of your club individually, in District Clusters, or even talking to your club boards and member give us a call.

Jack & Vivian Harig, PDG 2003/04

Rotary Club of Akron, OH

330-644-9862

ing like what is depicted on television, and most of the winning students acknowledged that, complimenting Harris on his professionalism and level-headed control of the courtroom.

Harris was pleased to have as guests young local attorneys Cris Newcomb, of Iarocci Law Firm, and Carly Prather, the city's Assistant Law Director. Both had gone through the My Day In Court program as eighth-graders about 15 years ago. Newcomb recalled talking in the jury box as an eighth grader, and Harris "shooting me a look." "I was terrified," he said. Newcomb concurred with Harris' suggestion that students thinking about becoming lawyers talk to him or Prather about law school. "The older attorneys help the younger attorneys. Talk to them. They know what it's like," Harris said.

The final word of the Rotary program was offered to Harris by the emcee, Rotary Vice President Joe Rogers. "Maybe you should be more like Judge Judy? She makes a lot of money," he said. The Courier will publish winning "My Day In Court" essays in the coming weeks.



2012-2013 - Youth Exchange Scholarship Candidates

By Patrick Kelley

The District Youth Exchange Committee has announced the selection of thirteen candidates that have been nominated by the following nine Rotary Clubs: Lakewood-Rocky River, Lakewood-Rocky River Sunrise, Westlake-Bay Village, Strongsville, North Royalton-Broadview, Medina, Medina Sunrise, Garrettsville-Hiram and Tallmadge.

Ten high schools are also represented by these candidates: North Ridgeville, Magnificat, Walsh Jesuit, James A. Garfield, Lakewood, Bay Village, Medina, Strongsville, North Royalton and Tallmadge.

The candidates and their parents attended an afternoon Orientation with Gov. Zabor and upcoming Governors Julie West, Bob Johnson and Mike Davanzo. A special treat this year were words of encouragement from four of our current Outbound students via a SKYPE Internet video broadcast. Everyone in attendance felt that this was an awesome experience because just 12 months ago these teens had been sitting in their First orientation just like these new candidates. Now they were going to high school in a foreign country thanks to their Rotary Clubs.

Becca Steel (Mentor RC) got up at 3AM, Monday morning in S. Korea to have her live chat with the candidates. Eliot Golod (Brunswick RC) came in from a late evening trip along the Spanish Mediterranean beach to talk about how great studying in Spain was. Lisa Kowalski (Lakewood RC) rushed back from shopping and talked about the challenges of learning the very difficult Icelandic language but was looking forward to swimming in the hot baths and also looking to having lunch with the President of the country this week. It was Monday morning in Russia for Trey Ad-

Be a District Conference Sponsor

By Jim Lechko

The Rotary District 6630 is delighted to announce the Annual District Conference will be held at the Sheraton Suites – Cuyahoga Falls, OH the weekend of April 13-15, 2012 and we have an opportunity for you! As in the past, the conference offers northeast Ohio businesses the chance to promote their business by taking advantage of various sponsorships.

The District 6630 conference will have several hundred Rotarians and their family members attending from all over the district, encompassing Ashtabula, Lake, Geauga, Cuyahoga, Medina, Summit and Portage counties in Ohio. We hope you will recognize this incredible opportunity for your business to be involved in an event such as this by supporting at some level.

Attendees are among some of the community's finest; Rotary club members represent a cross-section of business and profes-



Order tickets online, or order by phone at 888-71-TICKETS (888-718-4253)

sional leading men and women who have dedicated themselves to "Service Above Self".

Your participation will be a tremendous public relations/marketing opportunity for your firm all while supporting your



ams (Fremont RC) who is in a large Siberian city on the border with China. His pre-school wake-up shower was so good he almost forgot he had promised to talk with us. But he made a great show of adlibbing a paragraph in Russian and then quickly translating it for his audience. He had to cut his time short so he wouldn't be late for school.

The value of these scholarships for these high school students to spend one of their high school years studying in a foreign country amounts to almost one-half million dollars awarded through the respective Rotary Clubs.

Once again this year, these candidates will be formally inducted at the main banquet at the District Conference in April as the District's Rotary Youth Exchange Scholarship winners for next year.

local Rotary and ultimately the communities in which we live and work. Support will be acknowledged in a number of ways including the District web site, newsletter and exposure at the conference throughout the weekend. Sponsorship levels range from \$5000 to \$50, something to fit everyone's budget. Enclosed is a sponsorship form outlining the opportunities available and benefits you'll receive through your donation.

Rotary is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. In more than 200 countries worldwide, approximately 1.2 million Rotarians belong to more than 33,000 Rotary clubs.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. If you need additional information, please feel free to contact Jim Lechko Sponsorship Chair at 216.529.5625.

The world is a changing place, and The Rotary Club of Akron has to change with it. One of the many changes that are taking shape in Akron is the change in our meeting site. After many years at The Tangier, we will have our Tuesday lunch meetings starting February 7 at the historic Akron Women's City Club. 732 West Exchange Street Akron, OH 44302-1394. Come see us in our new home sometime. We love company.