



Lend a Hand



Breakfast Rotary—Jefferson City, MO



[www.jeffcityrotary.org](http://www.jeffcityrotary.org)

November 2003

Every Wednesday 7:00 a.m. Capitol Plaza Hotel 415 W. McCarty St. Jefferson City, MO

## DAN'S DISSERTATION

(WORDS FROM OUR ROTARY CLUB PRESIDENT)



Please mark a couple of dates on your calendars. The club's annual **Christmas party** will be on **Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**. Joe and Brenda Scheppers

have graciously agreed to serve as our hosts this year. The other event that will be here before we know it is the annual chicken dinner fund raiser. That will be taking place on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Eagle's Club. By your vote, the recipients of the money raised will be the Boy's and Girl's Club and the Senior Nutrition Center.

With November being designated as Rotary Foundation Month, I want to encourage everyone to actively support the Foundation. We had a tremendous response to the **Polio Plus** campaign last year, and we are doing well in the sustaining member area. The District's goal is to get everyone on board as a sustaining member, and I would like for all of you who are not now sustaining members to consider becoming one. All it takes is \$25 a quarter, which you can add to your dues payment. It is a relatively painless way to work towards becoming a Paul Harris Fellow and to help fund the many good works that the Rotary Foundation does throughout the world. Another easy way to support the Foundation is to become a benefactor. All that means is naming the Foundation as a beneficiary of any fund totaling at least \$1,000. You can find more information about this program at the RI website.

One last way you can support the Foundation is to purchase a personalized Rotary license plate for your vehicle. This will require an annual \$25 donation to the Foundation, in addition to the license registration fees and the \$15 personalized plate fee that the Department of Revenue collects. Either myself or Don Alberti can help you obtain the forms you will need.

### Recent Service Activities

#### \* Meals on Wheels - October 27

Monday, October 27th was a bright, sunny day but even more sunshine was delivered by six of our finest. Approximately 75 warm meals were delivered on six different routes in our city. Those meals bring more than just warm food, they bring social contact, caring people and in general Rotarians who believe in service. This month's heroes are veterans. They are Bob Sfredo, Rob Hess, Harv Sanders, Dudley Galloway, Ryan Burson and Ron Medin. We want to give special thanks to Rob Hess because with less than 18 hours notice he quickly and willingly agreed to fill in for the ailing Jim Jackson. He didn't say "why me" but simply said "sure, what time do you want me". Seems to me that we have a special club made up of special people. Hope to see even more of you in the future getting a chance to enjoy the rewards of community service delivering much needed MEALS ON WHEELS. Don't be afraid to sign up because I'll see that you know everything needed. It only takes about an hour and a half. Just like Nike, "No Fear".

Al Laffoon

*Jim Christianson has dedicated his life to the mission of the Rotary Foundation – conversant in six languages, well - traveled, and comfortable working abroad, he was already internationally minded when he joined the Rotary Club of Pelican Rapids, MN in May 1983. By the time he became a Rotarian, he had worked in Denmark, Israel, the Netherlands, and Switzerland. He married Johanna Wijnsma of Amsterdam in 1976, whom he met while working at a Swiss ski lodge.*

### **The first GSE team to China looks back – and ahead**

Jim Christianson led one of three Group Study Exchange teams to the People's Republic of China in 1993, a groundbreaking step toward Rotary's eventual return to the Chinese mainland, where provisional clubs now operate in Beijing and Shanghai.

The first team to reach China that year was led by Past RI Director Ed Hatcher, who recently hosted a 10-year reunion in Staunton, VA, USA.

"The reunion was lively and eventful," says Hatcher, who renewed acquaintance with team members and Rotary Foundation alumni Dan Grogan, John Hall, Mark Holberg, Howard Mayo, and Rod Owen.

The group reminisced and reflected on what Owen, a professor of philosophy and religion at Mary Baldwin College in Staunton, describes as their "life-changing experience."

Mayo, a high school teacher and basketball coach, and Holberg, an official with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, recalled helping to lay brick at a polio rehabilitation clinic in Hangzhou. Others remembered nighttime stargazing in the vast Gobi, sleeping in a small boat on the Grand Canal, and frequent requests to be photographed with Chinese

couples vacationing in Hangzhou. "I guess we were celebrities," says Owen. Grogan, a professional photographer, reprised his 1993 role and took snapshots of the group and their families.

Since the 1993 visit, Hall, an entrepreneur, has returned to China and participated in several joint economic ventures.

Hatcher, who has also returned to China, notes that perhaps the most lasting tribute to the team is the success of Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar Ian Zhou of Shanghai, sponsored by RI District 7570 in response to the 1993 exchange. Zhou earned his bachelor's and master's at Virginia Tech and is now pursuing his doctorate in public administration at Harvard University.

A member of RI's Extension in China Subcommittee, Hatcher says that Rotary "has significant opportunities for service in China" and adds that the chartering of Rotary clubs there remains "one of my ardent interests."

by Charles W. Pratt  
The Rotarian – Nov 2003

### **November Programs**

Nov 5<sup>th</sup> - Emily Van Zandt & Michelle Stewart – RYLA camp  
(Introduced by Dan McPherson)

Nov 12<sup>th</sup> - New Member Bio's

Nov 19<sup>th</sup> - Peggy Kirkpatrick  
Community Food Bank  
(Introduced by Jeff Pennock)

Nov 26<sup>nd</sup> - Kit Freudenberg

Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> - Tom Ronk  
(Introduced by Jeff Pennock)