

February 4, 2010
The Spokesperson
Minutes by Larry Neal ~
Photos submitted by Eric Pierson

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

2/11 ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION MEMBERSHIP GUIDEBOOK

JEFF FUREST / JOHN WALENDOWSKI

2/18 (KRIS MIELE) BARBARA DAVID IRLIN SYNDROME / SCOTOPIC SENSITIVITY

2/25 (KRIS MIELE) DR. KARI HORTOS STATUS OF MSU MEDICAL SCHOOL MACOMB CAMPUS

5/16

SPRING ZING - AN AWESOME AND ENGAGING EXPERIENCE FOR THE SENSES TASTE-FEST AND AUCTION
ZUCCARO'S COUNTRY HOUSE

From Eric Pierson: On January 31 we hosted the community meal at Zion. It was a great success as we fed 87 homeless people in the community a wonderful meal of lasagna, green beans, roll and salad. A good time was had by all that attended the event. Thanks to all Rotarians and their family members who pitched in their time and efforts for this great cause.

President Jeff Furest called the meeting to order at 12:15. **Bob Cannon** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and national anthem while **Jennifer Gale** accompanied on the piano. **Tom Davies** led the prayer. The dedicated Zion team delivered a hearty meal of cottage cheese with peaches, barbecued chicken, corn, baked potatoes and rainbow sherbet.

Jeff Furest indicated that several generous donations had been made for the ShelterBox project at this time of great need for the people of Haiti. He announced that several local organizations would benefit from the club's "Spring Zing" fund-raiser scheduled for May 16 including: ALS-TDI, Mount Clemens Regional Medical Center Mobile Medical Unit, Henry Ford Macomb Hospital Critical Care Unit, Baker College, Macomb Literacy Partners and the United Way. The goal is to raise \$50,000.

Scott Davis conducted the club in an abridged version of "This Land Is Your Land" and "Sing Rotarians" to the tune of "On Wisconsin."

Terri LeClair introduced our guests: Tom Hakim and Bob DeSalvio guests of **Bob Cannon**; Carlo Santia, Alex Greene, and Brent Chartier, speakers; and Tim Adriaens guest of **Rolf Schroeter**.

Bill Patterson was on flower duty. With the absence of several members Bill had a bouquet to unload and did as follows: **Bob Morris** for **Neil Dempsey** for driving him on a regular basis to Rotary; **Jeff Furest** for **Val Miller** for her help given to **Penny**; **Dick Pierson** for **Sarah Lee-Ellena** for her efforts on the fund-raiser; **Bob Cannon** to **Eric Pierson** for his leadership; **Eric Pierson** for **Mark Zuccaro**. **Bill Lee** indicated that he was "owed" a flower from the week before in recognition of his 53-year anniversary as a member of the club.

Recognition duty was handled by **Bob Leslie**. There were several announcements:

Eric Pierson thanked several members of the club for their assistance in feeding 87 homeless guests. **Bob Baker** encouraged members to sign up for the Rotary District 6380 Foundation Gala on February 18, at the Dearborn Inn. The keynote speaker is Mike McCullough, PDG and former RI director. Registration is available on the district Web site and is \$35. The Clinton Township Sunrise Club is having a fund-raiser with \$10 coupons to Parisian available for \$5. **Valerie Miller** reminded everyone that it's time to work on baskets for the fund-raiser. She had several baskets to distribute to team leaders. **Phil Groh** indicated that Karen Holsinger from Turning Point will have a display at the March 4 club meeting rather than the February 4 meeting as reported in last week's *spokesperson*. **Jeff Furest** reminded members of the Rotary board that the next meeting will be on Monday, February 8, at **Jessica Stone's** office. **Kris Miele** is delighted that her daughter will be returning after an extensive visit to Thailand.

Recognition started with **Bob Leslie** asking all Clinton Township employees in the room to stand. It appears that the electronic sign at 14 Mile and Gratiot is trying to keep people traveling through the township's DDA in a shopping mood by wishing them, "Merry Christmas." **Bill Patterson** was recognized as the "best dressed Rotarian" with his especially spiffy tie. **Cecilia Moloney** was honored as the longest standing member of the Chamber of Commerce. **Don Torline** was stumped about the big ice carving event next weekend. Everyone with a vested interest in the Super Bowl was asked to put their money on a sure bet — Rotary. A well-tanned **Tom Davies** was unable to sneak by undetected after a trip to Aruba and Curaçao. **Glenn Burton** was recognized on behalf of his father, one of the "best patent attorneys in Southeast Michigan." **Dick Pierson** went all the way to Puerto Vallarta to check up on fellow member Jim Haselwood. By a vote of the majority present, **Bill Lee** was asked to pony up for the flower he felt he was due because of his absence last week.

PROGRAM

Bob Cannon started the program giving an overview of Vanir Entertainment's new film production studio coming to Clinton Township. The new studio will be located on Groesbeck near the district court and will offer a one-of-a-kind concept green screen dome. In addition, through a close partnership with Baker College, career-track degreed programs will be offered giving students hands-on experience and skills in film production. This is another wonderful jewel for Clinton Township. Bob introduced Carlo Santia, Director of Planning and Community Development for Clinton Township.

Mr. Santia briefly discussed the process required to make the project happen, which will include rezoning from multi-family to light industrial and then approval of the site plan. Ground breaking could take place as early as spring. He discussed the economic development that will occur from this project, not only in badly needed construction jobs but on an ongoing basis directly and indirectly. Mr. Santia introduced producer Alex Greene and Brent Chartier. Mr. Greene is a resident of Macomb Township and has been in film production since 1997. He produced "My Bedbugs" for PBS and has 13 Emmys and 12 Tellys. He has produced the series, "Social Graces" and "Misery Luvs Company." Currently he is working on the made for television movie, "The Gifting."

Mr. Chartier discussed the innovative spirit that drives Michigan and Vanir Entertainment. The proposed green screen dome, covering 20,000 square feet, and rising 40' at its highest point, is anticipated to revolutionize the film industry through cost and labor savings. The entire dome will be enclosed in a building to eliminate external noise from entering during filming. There will also be two film/TV/sound states and several classrooms for Baker College. Mobile production studio docking bays will allow for efficient onsite filming on demand. The building will be LEED certified with the goal of minimizing its impact on the environment. The multi-million-dollar project will likely consist of two phases.

This is a shining example of the diversified economy that Michigan needs for the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Dave Meldrum won the 50/50 raffle worth \$35.

