



# Kalamazoo Rotary News



Monday, May 9 and 16, 2005

Edited by Bob O'Boyle and Sandy Bliesener

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## Upcoming Programs:

**May 23, 2005**

**Speaking Freely, Living Dangerously**

*Jim Stephanak, new Publisher of the Kalamazoo Gazette*

## Rotary Monday, 9 May 2005

Rotary Monday took place with a packed house. Even the head table was full. **John Dillworth** played very pleasant dinner music and **Dan Van Sweden** followed the singing of the national Anthem with an appropriate Invocation. Kevin Bayes of WKZO radio read the news and a bit of humor. **Giff Blaylock** also brought us up to speed on the "Art Happenings" around town.

**Visiting Rotarians:** Paul Ballard and Dave Becker from Portage and Doug Brem from the Otsego Club were visiting today.

**Guests:** There were 30 guests today so President **Tim** recognized them en masse by asking them to stand.

**Songs:** Maestro **Tim Kilmartin** with **John Dillworth** on the ivories coaxed "Let there be Peace on Earth" from the massed Rotary Choir.

**Announcements and Presentations:** **Jim McIntyre** gave a special presentation to the Maroon Foundation of \$2,000.00 from Rotary Charities for the Kalamazoo Central Auditorium campaign. Grant Chandler of the Foundation accepted the gift and indicated that the funds will be used to purchase music stands for the new auditorium. The new facility will be dedicated October 1 of this year. **Jill Eldred** recognized five Strive students in the audience and their Rotarian mentors. Past President **Rick Briscoe** praised the support he received from 25 fellow Rotarians for the Peru Group Study Exchange. He also was grateful for the 29 non-Rotarians who supported the effort. **Rick** was recognized by President **Tim** and Rotarians in attendance for his heroic effort in pulling the entire Group Study Exchange together in a very short time.

**Happy Bucks:** Rotarians were very generous to Rotary Charities today as they celebrated some exciting events in their lives. To wit: **PP/PDG Karl Sandelin** celebrated the passing of the KRESA millage and gave a double fin as "restitution" and celebration of the new Kalamazoo Central High Auditorium. **Sean McCann** gave for the success of the Red Cross Fund Raiser, "String of Pearls". Pres Elect **Drew Elliot** gave for a great experience as celebrity chef at the Beacon Club. **PP Jack Hopkins** celebrated the recent fund raising effort to enable single women to go back to school. **PP Charles Martell** celebrated the success of past Mr. Everything, **Karl Sandelin**, who successfully passed the finish line of the half marathon in the Borgess Run for the Health of It. **John Dillworth** happily gave for the anniversary of his wife Wendy's bone marrow transplant. **Craig Misner** celebrated passing of the millage, and the successful passing of his son through Hope College. **Don Flesche** recognized the success of **Timmon Corwin** and

the Kalamazoo Hornets Tennis Team as it completes another season with a trip to NCAA Nationals. **Joe Brogger Jr.** recognized the “tennis legends” sitting at the K College table.

**Rotary Program:** Past President **Nancy Owen** introduced the Speaker and Topic of the Day. As a part of her introductions she also introduced Chris Markin, son of the speaker and grandson of the founder of Checker Motors, Morris Markin. David Markin gave a very interesting story about the man that his father was and the companies that he founded. David’s contributions to the community and his reputation within national tennis circles are well known, but his relationship to his father and his role in the success of the Checker Motors is not as well known. His stories of Morris Markin and the Checker Motors Corporation was indeed one of our better programs.

### **Rotary Monday, May 16, 2005**

Rotary at the Radisson this particular Monday was an inter-city affair with the Battle Creek Club joining in the festivities. A full house guaranteed fun and fellowship in addition to strong support to fellow Rotarian **Pat DiGiovanni**. **Stan Clouse** gave an appropriate invocation after a rousing National anthem. **Giff Blalock** gave the art news.

**Visiting Rotarians:** President **Tim** welcomed members of the Battle Creek Club and recognized them as a group. Additionally the following visiting Rotarians were individually recognized: Portage Rotarians Glen Kellam, Assistant District Governor Betty Lee Ongley and David Becker; and from Climax Rotary, Marty Feilon and Gil Culver.

**Guests:** There were so many guests of Rotarians in attendance that President **Tim** welcomed and recognized them as a group.

**Songs:** **Chuck Van Zoeren** and **John Dillworth** warmed up the Rotarians and guests in attendance with the old Rotary favorite “All Hail to Rotary”. **Chuck** then gave his mini sermon on his quasi “National Anthem”, as we then sang “America the Beautiful”.

**Announcements:** According to **President Tim:** The board meets 12 noon this Wednesday at The Park Club. Also, on May 19<sup>th</sup> the Rotary Social will take place at the Park Club for dinner and then to the Civic Theater. The Prez also recognized **Janice Brown** for the Kalamazoo Gazette article and fined her for not wearing her pin. Likewise he recognized **Tom Ihling** for being in the news in connection with Catholic Family Services. Rotary also made the national headlines as well as the Gazette, and **Thell Woods** distributed a copy to each table for Rotarian’s use in explaining Rotary to prospective new members. **D. Terry Williams** also announced that he is now back from his extended stay in Peoria.

**Happy Bucks:** **Ken Nacci** offered a salute to **Pat DiGiovanni** who had announced his pending resignation as City Manager over the weekend. An extended standing ovation brought **Pat** to the podium where he gave a positive statement on his years with the City and his continued support from the mayor and vice-mayor, the commissioners, and from his many supporters in the community. After receiving another extended standing ovation by Rotarians and Guests, several Rotarians gave personal statements of appreciation and support for Pat.

Happy bucks were given by **PP Joe Gagie** for his Grandson who was medalist at GL Country Club. **PP Jerry Meinzinger** gave for his new grandson. **Rodger Storteboom** gave for his 40 years with Douglas and Son as well as for the support of **Pat DiGiovanni** and the City of Kalamazoo.

**Rotary Program:** **Ed Sackley** introduced Steve McMillon, President and CEO of the Stryker Corporation, who gave an overview of the history and current status of this very successful global organization headquartered in our community. He explained that although the company was founded and led by two members of the Stryker family, their influence on the company has been continued since their demise. He indicated that the company has been built on sound clinical outcomes, exceptional results and, most importantly, unbending integrity.

Mr. McMillon presented a very interesting and stimulating presentation on the Stryker Corporation. It is obvious why he was selected to follow the only three other leaders (Homer and Lee Stryker, and John Brown) of the company in its sixty-four year history.

KALAMAZOO ROTARY CLUB  
MAKE-UP LIST  
May 16, 2005

BOARD MEETING: Jerry Albertson, Rex Bell, Jim Bridenstine, Rick Briscoe, Tim Brown, Randy Eberts, Drew Elliott, Blake Hart, Bob Kent, Mary Ann Mitchell, Rachel Packer, Keith Roe, Mike Williams, Thell Woods

BRONSON, MI: Karl Sandelin

DISTRICT CONFERENCE: Giff Blaylock, Tim Brown, Bob Heasley, Tom Hoekstra, Cecil Kerr, George Peterson, Linda Phillips, John Polzin, Keith Roe, Karl Sandelin (3)

EDITARIAN: Sandy Bliesener, Bob O'Boyle

KALAMAZOO SUNRISE: Dennis Berkebile, Janet Pisaneschi (2)

OSHTEMO, MI: Bob Boughner, Horace Brown, Stan Clouse, Don Flesche, Becky Smith

PARCHMENT, MI: Linda Phillips

PEORIA, IL: D. Terry Williams (2)

PORT-AU-PRINCE: Keith Mumma

PORTAGE A.M., MI: George Angelidis, Rick Briscoe (2), Craig Glass, Karl Sandelin

PORTAGE, MI: Garrett Boersma, Lynne Cowart, Lloyd Hanton, Thell Woods

SOUTH FT. MYERS, FL: Ann Hannon (8)

Board Meeting Notes, May 18, 2005:

- Resignations of Don MacKenzie and Leo Swiat accepted with regret;
- Mark your calendars: Rotary will meet at Stowe Stadium for the USTA Boys Nationals on August 8. Make up opportunities at Stowe available every day that week.
- Mark your calendars: Rotary Golf Outing, Monday, August 8. Details to follow.