



# The Wheel



Rotary Club of Northwest Summit County

April 2004

## **President's Message** by Tom Kelley

Spring is finally here! For me, it is such a great time of year. Spring is a time of cleansing, renewal, growth and new life. It is a period of high energy and it is filled with hope and optimism for the future.

The season of spring symbolizes our Rotary year thus far. You can feel the energy that permeates our club. It is demonstrated in several ways. A majority of our members are actively participating in some type of club project or program on a regular basis, or are actively involved in some type of administrative role. Not only have we made great strides in our membership program, we have expanded and grown in number our service projects and our social activities. Attendance at breakfast meetings has been consistently high and the quality of our speakers has been excellent.

Our club has a lot to offer each and every member. What a great time to be a member of the Rotary Club of Northwest Summit County Ohio! What a great time to invite a guest to share in this wonderful experience!



Longer days, warmer air, green grass growing, buds in bloom. Revel in the long-awaited, eagerly anticipated arrival of Spring!



## **Auction Finale**



***I cannot beg  
anymore  
What for  
I cannot whine  
I have no time  
Our members have come to rally  
To bring up the tally  
400 gifts we have  
And I'm no longer sad  
Dr. Suess, I'm not  
But hey, I'll give it a pop***

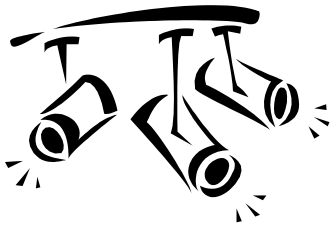
I can only say a heartfelt 'Thank you' to all of you who again have spent time and energy in meeting our goals for corporate tables, donated items, and tickets sold.



A toast to the best auction ever, in terms of money brought in!! Tom Kelley, say goodbye to holding the record for the highest money making year.

I too, can dream!

*Nancy*



New Member  
Spotlight  
on.....  
*Betsy McIntire*

I am a resident of Granger Township in Medina County and have lived in the area for about twelve years. My eighteen year old son, Jon Harris, is a freshman at Ohio University, majoring in journalism. If any of you have attended plays at the Elms over the past few years you may have seen him in various roles. As a proud mother, however, I must say his best role was that of Thoreau in "The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail" presented at Highland High School in 2003.



I recently graduated Magna Cum Laude from The University of Akron with a Bachelors of Science in Accountancy. I have worked in public accounting over the past twenty years. I also worked as a tax and pension paralegal with Joe Cook, Jr. at Amer Cunningham and assisted him in his capacity as treasurer of the Akron Rotary Club. I am currently employed with CBIZ Accounting Tax & Advisory Services of Northeast Ohio, formerly Spector and Saulino, located in Bath. I am a senior accountant in the Accounting Services department serving small businesses, with a focus on medical practices. I plan to sit for the CPA exam this summer.



I am active in the Granger United Methodist Church, currently serving as head of the Worship Team. I was a senior high youth leader for five years and went on four mission trips with the youth, three to Appalachia and one to an Indian reservation in Michigan. Believe it or not, I actually enjoy spending a week working hard (and getting no sleep!) in the company of teenagers. Now that I no longer have to schedule life around classes, I hope to work on our adult mission trip this fall.


My hobbies include glass beadmaking/lampworking and I am once again, after a 25 year hiatus, getting involved in off-hand glass blowing. (Similar to what you see at Hale Farm.) I am a member of the International

Society of Glass Beadmakers and also the Glass Art Society.

My other pastime is driving my MiniCooper S, which you may have seen dashing around the area. I went on a rally last fall with the local MiniCooper club that involved over 70 Minis. The local Mini club is a great group of people who are not only serious about their cars, but also about having fun. I am going to enter the car in the British car show this May at the Hilton in Fairlawn.

*Thank you for your prayers, concerns, cards, the beautiful basket of greenery (which I will plant outside) and your presence at calling hours and the memorial service for my Dad. Your kindness is greatly appreciated and cherished.*

*Sincerely, Nancy Kropko*




**OUR CLUB CALENDAR**

April 2004

- 3- Annual Spring Gala and Auction
- 7- No meeting
- 14- Club meeting



**PARK BOARD APPOINTMENT**

The Bath Township Trustees have established an advisory board for the township parks. The Board has been in existence for many years and a member from each community or organization is designated to sit on the Board. Nick Rusanowski, who recently resigned, has been our Club's representative for many years. The Board has appointed Mary Ann Krejci, to replace Nick as our club's representative on the Board. We look forward to frequent updates from Mar Ann regarding our parks.

## *Celebrate Rotary*

Celebrate good times, come on!!! Are you humming? Do you know that tune? I just completed the All Ohio President-Elect Training School (P.E.T.S.). It was held in Columbus beginning Friday at 5 pm reconvening Saturday morning at 6:30 and wrapping up Saturday evening at 9:30.

This is a special year for Rotary – we are celebrating 100 years! Did you know that we are the oldest service organization in the world? We are – and we are going to “**Celebrate Rotary**” this coming year! The Centennial International Convention will conclude the celebration in Chicago of 2005. We will have a parade in downtown Chicago and many exciting celebrations in the Windy City where our Rotary met for the first time. More about this coming!!!!

We were honored at P.E.T.S. this year with the Rotary International Centennial President-Elect, Glenn S. Estess, Sr. as the keynote speaker. He is from Alabama, a Southern gentleman. As you might expect, one of his goals is to focus on the **Family of Rotary** – membership growth and retention – sharing this family fortune with others. He also wants this year to consider **literacy**. Two billion people in the world cannot read! We can and will do something to change those numbers.

This really links to the next two goals that Glenn set out for all of us. **Health care** is one of the two. We will be celebrating the eradication of polio in Chicago. This is not enough when malaria and HIV are epidemic. Rotarians are just the ones with the hearts and the resources to tackle these killers.

The last objective is **water management**. Clean water is more valuable than gold. Ninety percent of infectious diseases are transmitted through water. Rotarians have the contacts, the ideas, and the resources to make a difference. We are the hands and the hearts that will deliver results.

We have been asked to plan a special project this year for our Centennial year – I heard about local, national and international ideas – is there a project you have always wanted our Club to do? Now is the time!

R.I. asked everyone to pledge 3% net growth for membership goals – our pledge is a 4-member net growth – please don't do the numbers – I was under a lot a peer pressure! Besides, David Hastings is up for the challenge I know it!

The last request (and maybe one of the most moving) was a presentation given by Larry Wright from Taylor, Michigan. He appealed to our heads and hearts. He showed a video of the Children of

the Dump in Nicaragua. There are many children in the world that could have their possibilities increased by investing manpower and money. A plea for “**Every Rotarian, Every Year**” to give \$100 was submitted humbly. Currently Rotarians throughout the world give \$68-73 million to the Rotary Foundation. \$100 from every Rotarian would increase that figure to \$125 million.

As never before, I have been made keenly aware that it is an honor to be a Rotarian and I am especially honored to be a Rotarian from the Northwest Summit County Club.

*Linda Littler*

## **GRANTS**

Our new grant making policy and procedures have now been fully implemented. Our Board has made a final award of grants for the Rotary year (July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004). No further grants will be made during this Rotary year unless there is an emergency request or an out of cycle request which must be dealt with immediately. The following grants were awarded in this cycle:

1. 1,000.00 to the Bath Police Department for the Safety Town program
2. \$1,995.00 to Edwin Shaw Hospital to support the Challenge Golf program
3. \$1,500.00 to Victory Gallop to support rider scholarship for 3-6 children whose family's lack resources to pay for their participation in the program.
4. \$1,000.00 to the Western Reserve playhouse to be used for their general operating fund and for their parking lot project.
5. \$500.00 to the Copley/Fairlawn Athletic Association to help pay the cost of children who cannot afford to “pay to play” various sports programs
6. \$5,000.00 (pledge) to the Copley High School tennis court project to help raise \$150,000.00 to replace the unsafe tennis courts at the high school. Thus far, the committee which is organizing the fundraising has received over \$50,000.00 in cash and pledges: It is expected that their goal will be reached in the near future and that the tennis courts will be operational by the Spring of 2005.

The Board awarded the following grants earlier in the year.

1. \$3,500.00 Emmanuel Christian Academy
2. \$1,000.00 Vision Support Services
3. \$1,200.00 Revere World Awareness
4. \$1,200.00 Copley Close-Up program

I applaud each and every club member for the contribution of time, effort and money that you make so that our club can raise the funds necessary to award these grants that are so needed by the members of our community.



*Rotary Club  
of Northwest Summit County  
c/o Mary Boesch  
119 Conger Avenue  
Akron, OH 44303*

*To:*