

ROTARY ELEVATOR

April 2008

Message from President Joe

New members at every table - almost! What a great first four months of the year with so many new faces embracing the ideal of "**Service Above Self**". Please get better acquainted with each new member and invite them to set with you at lunch on Tuesdays.



Please continue watching your email for anything with the subject "**Xenia Rotary**". Thanks to incoming Treasurer **John LeBlanc** for continuing to develop an E-Billing system and a newly designed invoice. Many thanks also to incoming Secretary **Dave Wedderburn** and **Brian Liming** for finalizing a new digital directory. The final version went out last week. I recommend you save it on the desktop of your computer for a great resource for a lot of valuable Xenia Rotary information and the contact info, including email, for all current members.

While we are thankful for new members, the Club is getting smaller - well at least a dozen members in the **Biggest Loser** contest are smaller than they were a month ago! We have lost over 110 pounds total and still counting - counting the pounds and counting the days until we can eat Oreo Ice Cream again!

See you Tuesday, God Bless,

Joe Mullins, President

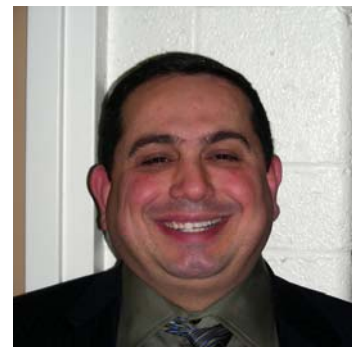
April 1, 2008-Meeting Notes

Oops - No Greeter again??? [Please check the club assignments each month in the Elevator or the website www.xeniarotary.org. It is not the President's job to see you know your job each week.] But we moved forward to a Full House on Pre- Pancake Day. Tony S. prayed for us as his mother turned 92 today. Buffy Myers led us in perfect pitch according to Prez Joe. Guests included former member and past president Joe Carrico looking good and back working for Terry Tobey.

Boy Scouts representatives Michelle Vincent and Richard Stride presented Joe a plaque as *Thank You* for Rotary's support of

\$1,200 to provide Thanksgiving basket to 34 Xenia Families for the Scout's *Good Turn America Project*.

Personal Profile came from new member **Adolfo Tornichio** who says he is the only person in the room to have worked for Barbara Schenck and Bill Schenck. Adolfo worked for Senator DeWine's office before pursuing a law degree at University of Toledo. After law school he has worked for the prosecutor's office. He grew up in Beavercreek and graduated in 1988 where he was the class president then graduated from Wright State. When people asked how to spell his name he says S M I T H. Barbara S. related that after she hired Adolfo he showed up and said he was going to law school tomorrow and would not be in.



Rotary District 6670 News:

- Golf Outing May 12 at Shaker Run.
- A District Disaster Fund has been started to help fill the many requests not only from the U.S. but Internationally. A request was made for \$5/member per year. Asked all over the next two meeting to contribute \$5. And so we did.

Ladies Sarge Month - and up first was *The Queen* herself Barbara Schenck. She immediately picked on Kevin Sonnycalb who has given her such a difficult time. She provided info on the **Biggest Losers** Teams:

Team # 1

Joe Mullins
Brian Stephen
Melinda Cooper
Dave Wedderburn
Paul Fullenkamp
Bill Flaute

Team #2

John LaRock
Todd McManus
Gloria Roth
Dale Hagler
Adolfo Tornichio
Randy Overbeck

The rest of us were assigned as Cheerleaders for a team. Pledge sheets were given to each team to raise funds. Queen/Sarge Barbara had asked nutritious questions of each team members about for every missed answer she fined Kevin S a dollar. I believe he was down \$8 dollars but a smart aleck answer cost him another \$5.

David Thompson served as our program chair introducing Dr Frank James and Michelle Sarmiento of James Investment Research Inc. (www.jir-inc.com) Dr. James earned his PhD from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He later was Chair of graduate management statistics at AFIT before founding James Investment Research in 1972. Dr. James' doctoral dissertation was the seminal work challenging the random walk theory and

his concept of "relative strength" is now used world wide. Michelle is a graduate of Wright State with a BS in 2006 and MBA in 2007 where she was named most outstanding business student.

Dr James presented a 2008 Economic Outlook that they provide for the Ohio Chamber of Commerce each year for its members.

He first began by looking back at beginning of 2007 and what they predicted for the year and what they predicted became true. They forecast stock for an increase in prices but would stall. They expected a weaker dollar calling for lower interest rates.



For 2008 Economy positives:

- Weak dollar makes U.S. products a bargain
- Export sale increasing
- Election years tend to be strong

Economy Negatives:

- Housing debacle will overhang for years
- Banks loaded with faulty credit
- Corporate profits falling
- FED fighting currency shrinkage
 - Short term rates too high
 - Money growth constrained

Stocks Positives:

- Weak Dollar
- Election Year

Stocks Negatives:

- Earning lagging
- Jobs not plentiful
- Consumer Confidence plummeting
- U.S. Economy slowing... Recession.

Michelle finished with recommendation for businesses:

- Look for housing debacle to persist for years
- Tainted reserves at big banks make loans harder to get
- Plan for higher imported goods

For individual investors:

- Risks increasing in international markets
- Long term bonds are attractive
- Avoid speculating in housing and real estate
- Consumer staple, undervalued and unloved stocks should hold up relatively well in a bear market.
- Consider balanced and market neutral approaches to offset volatility

In March 2008 they issued a paper to *Buy Stocks*. There was a market rally in March and will likely be some more as the economy recovers. So now is a good time to buy while values are low. Remember the Chinese symbol for Crisis is a combination of Danger and Opportunity.

April 8, 2008-Meeting Notes

Greeter Harry Johns welcomed all with his usual big smile. Barbara Schenck prayed for us as Buffy M. led singing including Happy Birthday for the April Birthdays folks including April Fool's Day Baby Gregg Hebrank.

Personal Profile today was [Steve Stapleton](#) joined the Xenia club in September 2007

coming from the Fairborn Rotary Club. He thanked the members for his welcome to the Xenia community and the club. A native of Dayton he graduated from Fairview HS where he ran track with Olympian Edwin C.



Moses. Steve joined the Army straight from high school returning to Dayton attended Wright State and married his high school sweetheart. They have six children of their own and one adopted while serving as foster parents. Steve started his Post Office career as a clerk to letter mail sorter machine operator to management serving as Postmaster in West Milton, Fairborn and now Xenia. He loves all sports, camping, hunting and fishing. He ran a half marathon for his 50th birthday supporting leukemia and lymphoma. His goal is to run a full marathon. The Xenia Post Office delivers to 17,000 homes with 23 city routes and none rural routes and a \$4 million budget.

Pancake Day Update- largest crowd since 1966 - 2,284 adult meals!!! Thanks to Sponsors [Krogers & Paul Fullenkamp](#), [Bob Evans & Tom Sefton](#) and [Gordon Food Service \(GFS\)](#). A another **BIG** Thank you to [Tom Swigart and his wife Dawn](#) who put in an 18 hour day along with other all day volunteers [Bob Geyer](#), [Eric Eyrich](#), and [Tom Sefton](#).

Xenia Area Chamber Banquet Report found two Rotarians among the honorees- [Tom Zajbel](#) was awarded the F.M. Torrence Award and [Dave Wedderburn](#) was recipient of the Robert Babb Award. Congrats Rotarians!

Lady Sarge Barbara S. with assist from Kim Sease presented the Biggest Loser Contest to the club with the number one objective to raise money for the club... and improve the health of our members. Team #1 lost 21pounds and Team #2 lost 16 pounds for the week. Paul Fullenkamp was the Biggest Loser of the week losing 8 pounds! Happy Bucks from Bill F. for 30th anniversary and birthday; and Barb Z having the hardest month keeping secret from hubby on his award.

Terry Thomas was our program chair presenting Mel Campbell Director of The Academy of Greene County, an alternative school that is part of the Greene County Educational Service Center. Mel retired from Beaver creek Schools after 30 years as a teacher and administrator and has been at The Academy for 8 years.

Director Campbell stated that his population was not the ones who received the accolades. When you hear "alternative school," what do you think of? Problems, issues, trouble with learning, "at risk", does not fit well in typical classroom. He does not make excuses for their behavior but tries to understand them. He shared several letters that students had written for a class assignment about their home and parents and later letters

"Blessed are the flexible for they shall not be bent out of shape." ~ Michael McGriffy

to Santa Clause. You could sense the deep emotions of the students in anger, hostility, and hurt.

One third of students have been in the court system. They are probably your next door neighbor from all over Greene County. Mel asked how each of us would have turned out with the family background of some of these students? We would probably be an emotional wreck. "His kids" are successful. Since 2000, 117 of 136 graduated getting a HS diploma and passing the graduation test - an 83% graduation Rate! Mel credits the success to a very caring staff mentoring positive relationships.



Mel finished by telling the story of *One at a time* and how they see their role at the Academy.

One at a time

A friend of ours was walking down a deserted Mexican beach at sunset. As he walked along, he began to see young boy in the distance. As he grew nearer, he noticed that the young boy kept leaning down, picking something up and throwing it out into the water. Time and again he kept hurling things out into the ocean.

As our friend approached even closer, he noticed that the young boy was picking up starfish that had been washed up on the beach and, one at a time, he was throwing them back into the water.

Our friend was puzzled. He approached the young boy and said, "Good evening, friend. I was wondering what you are doing."

"I'm throwing these starfish back into the ocean. You see its low tide right now and all of these starfish have been washed up onto the shore. If I don't throw them back into the sea, they'll die up here from lack of oxygen."

"I understand," my friend replied, "but there must be thousands of starfish on this beach. You can't possibly get to all of them. There are simply too many. And don't you realize this is probably happening on hundreds of beaches all up and down this coast. Can't you see that you can't possibly make a difference?"

The young boy smiled, bent down and picked up yet another starfish, and as he threw it back into the sea, he replied, "made a difference to that one!"



April 15, 2008-Meeting Notes

Big John LaRock was subbing as our Greeter followed by Russ doing the prayer and song leader Bill Flaute who the Prez almost left out altogether. But Best of All- **Jeanie Hughes was Back!!!** And she reported that all is clear with no chemo or radiation treatments required. She thanked the members for their prayers and cards. Our singing improved 100% too!

Announcements:

- Questionnaires from incoming President Bob Geyer on next year's assignments.
- Club Quarterly Statement are going out via email.
- District 6670 Golf Tournament at Shaker Run May 12.

Personal profile came from new member [C.J. McLin](#) who thanked the club for inviting him to join. Yes, he gets a few phone calls about funerals by having the same name. Native of Brookville he played on state champ football team in 1976. CJ started his career in customer service with US Air until they left town fourteen years later. He then got into the automotive business and its still customer service again for fourteen years so far. CJ married his high school sweetheart with three grown children and two grandchildren with one on the way.



Lady Sarge Kim was back with the [Biggest Loser](#) results of the week: Joe Mullins number one losing 14 pounds for Team #1 now known as the [Heavy Hotties](#) giving them 24 pounds lost for the week. Team #2 now known as the [Rotary Belly Dancers](#)-lost 15 pounds. She challenged the all club members to walk/run 10 miles in the next week. Happy Bucks from Kim on 20th wedding anniversary; Judy B for 40th anniversary of senior center.

Terry Tobey as program chair bought us the retiring Wright State Athletic Director and frequent visitor/speaker Dr Mike Cusack. Mike is retiring after 26 years as Athletic Director that has seen many, many changes in athletics on the campus including change to Division I in 1987, the building of the Nutter Center in 1990, and the construction of the Setzer Pavilion/Mills-Morgan Center in 2005. His tenure has been punctuated with proactive ideas and includes such programs as the Athletics Director's Club, Captain's Club (now the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee), LifeSKILLS program, and the Hall of Fame. But he is not leaving the area and will begin teaching a new sports management certificate program at Wright State. He also hopes to get a new *Raider Village* off the ground before he retires in June. This village would have a domed practice turf fields for soccer, softball, baseball plus add lighted tennis courts and build a track.



A native of Levittown, New York where he and Terry Tobey went to high school, Cusack earned his BS Long Island University in 1964 and his MS at Queens College in 1969 and an Ed.D. in 1980 from New York University in administration of physical education and athletics. Cusack spent nine years at Queens College and then four years as athletics director and head baseball coach at Mercyhurst College in Erie, PA.

Mike spoke of the many changes and growth in the area. No mid major program has the basketball facilities that Wright State presently has. Which is one reason they were able to hire basketball Coach Brownell and for him to recruit top players. When Mike was asked how long they will be able to keep Brownell? You never know but he has very capable assistant coaches that could move up. But every athletic director has a list of possible coaches in his pocket.

When asked the preverbal question about football, Mike said it was too expensive. He had started football at Mercyhurst and had wanted to start a non-scholarship program like the University of Dayton's. But too it is expensive and now must add gender equality of 100 spots for girls sports.

Mike was especially happy about academics of Wright State Athletes which had a GPA for the department over 3.0 for eight straight years. His most positive accomplishment was helping a former athlete who had criminal problems return to school, graduate and move on successfully.

April 22, 2008-Meeting Notes

Steve Brodsky was at the Greeter spot for the missing Dale Hagler on this Beautiful Sunny Spring Day. And we had a Full House with lots of guests. Kent Martin prayed as Bill Flaute led us singing *When the Saints go marching in*.

The **Biggest Loser** contest results showed Team #1 **Heavy Hotties** losing 15 pounds with Team #2 **Rotary Belly Dancers** having only one member, Adolfo showing up. But Adolfo and President Joe led the contest both losing 16 pounds so far.

Sarge Robyn celebrating her wedding anniversary fined all who had ever forgotten one. Also fined all who had not pledged a Biggest Loser. She quizzed the tables on divorce statistics which most lost and aid fines. She then told Wonder Why? one liners - Why what doctors do is called practice? Why sun darkens skin but lightens hair? Why stalled traffic is called Rush Hour? Happy Bucks Harry Johns back from Honor flight to Washington DC; Russ on Seder Meal in honor of Passover and just because you ate part of it – you are not converted; Terry Tobey on Dad's weekend at UC with daughter and they won golf tournament; Joe happy moved offices to East Second St. 52/50 winner Ginny Martin and Attendance Rock McColaugh.

Brian Liming served as program chair and was part of the program of a local group going to the Navajo Nation in northeast Arizona in November 2007 for a mission project to renovate a Navajo woman's house that was being condemned. A running slide show was shown of the home before during and after renovation. Brian first introduced Diane Dixon who first started going to the Navajo Nation in 1993 as an advisor to a junior high youth project. It was a wake up call to her personally to understand the differences between Wants and Needs after seeing the desolate conditions of the Navajo people and their living environment.



She has gone back on forty trips with various groups over the last ten years making long lasting relationships with the Navajos. Pictured above are part of the members who went on the trip: Becky and Brian Liming, Diane Dixon, Denise Dixon, Dale and Cheri Dixon.

She and her family have brought five Navajo children to Ohio to live and continue schooling here. She has one girl here now attending Xenia Christian High School.

Diane's brother Dale Dixon spoke of a rehab project in February 2007 and the amount of work to the home (a two room shack) to make it *habitable*. And then spoke about the work done last November by the twelve members of this group. Most of the support was raised in the Xenia Area for this project. All funding is processed through the Cornerstone Church, Lebanon, Ohio for tax deduction purposes.

Another sister Denise Dixon spoke of the groups funding costs as \$700- 1,500 per person for a 5-7 day trip. Individuals pay their own way or raise sponsorships. In January 2009 they will deliver food and new/gently used clothing as 56% of the Navajo are below poverty level with 43% unemployed. In the middle of February they needed skilled labor to work on another home as 42% of the *homes* have two rooms; 47% have no sewer/septic system; 15% have no running water. In June they will do a Vacation Bible School for the youth. In late August they plan to cut firewood for the elderly as 52% of homes burn wood for heat in the high elevation area of Arizona. A new trip is tentatively planned for a Cultural Tour with no work to be performed but to visit the area, sacred cities, and the rich traditions of the Navajos.

April 29, 2008-Meeting Notes

Again NO Greeter??? *[Please check the Assignment List at www.xeniarotary.org or last month's Elevator.]* Bill Flaute was here to provide our opening prayer with John Meyer II to lead singing BUT he had us sing verses 3 & 4 of *America the Beautiful* which no one knew or could find the right page.

Our Italian Rotary Exchange student Francesco was present and gave us an up date. He is playing on state rated tennis team and also was on the swimming team. Every thing going well... BUT he had his first after school detention last week. (Something about talking in class?) Yes, Yellow Spring Girls like Italian boys. Said he was going to the prom with an Italian young lady from Yellow Springs. So we passed the hat and collected \$132 for him to enjoy the festivities.

Personal profile came from **Karl Colon** (the Library Guy) whose father is from Portugal and his mother German from Minnesota so he was the only Portuguese German born in a small town in Nebraska. AS a small town he spent a lot of time in the one room library. Family moved to Cincinnati where his father taught at the Medical school. Karl went to St Xavier and then Oberlin followed by graduating from the Ohio State Law School. Karl practiced personal law and then worked environmental issues for Ohio Attorney General's office. Then he made a career change getting a master degree in Library Science. He has



worked libraries in Columbus, Davenport, IA before becoming Greene County Director fifteen months ago. Karl has also been a professional Irish musician for twenty years. He and his wife, Deborah of twenty years are expecting their first child in July.

Biggest Losers continues: The Belly Dancers lost 16 pounds while the Heavy Hotties lost 3 pounds. But for the month Heavy Hotties have lost 63 pounds while the Belly Dancers lost 57 pounds. Joe says that a whole person. Where here did they go?

Sarge of the 5th Tuesdays Russ Remick was back for his last time. Told a long story about how parents got kids to come to Florida for Passover and pay their own way. Fined John Meyer for singing the last two verses. Happy Bucks from Randy O for 50 Rotarians who volunteered for Rotary Reads and that his wife's gall bladder surgery was successful; Dave W for mother surviving an auto crash; Jean Hughes for 29 years as pianist and 10 years as Honorary Rotarian. Then had member missing their Rotary Pin a chance to tell the biggest lie or pay \$2. Three took on the challenge Buffy says she is schizophrenic and put the pin on her other self. No fine. Todd Mc said he was helping a blind lady stuck in a tree find her Seeing Eye dog. No fine. Joe M. could not find his in the dark room today... no good pay. Russ then told another long story about a dental patient... the moral being "no plate like chrome for hollandaise." You had to be there. 52/50 winner Doc Warner and Attendance would have been the missing Barbara S.

Doc Warner serving as program chair remarked that some of our best programs have come from our own members. So he invited member Keith Sheridan to share some experiences in the auctioneer business. Keith a native of Yellow Springs has been auctioneer for 36 years after being in the seed and grain business for fourteen years. His wife June sent in his application to auctioneer school for him in 1971. He was able to apprentice under Myron Woodward of Urbana who Keith considered the finest auctioneer in Ohio. Many auctioneers would not take on an apprentice as that would be competition. Keith served as president of the Ohio Auctioneers Association in 1988.



An auctioneer is judged by his "chant", how he values an item to start the bid and knowledge off auction law. His first auction on his own he had a man dispute the final bid on the first item. But Myron had told to *Be in Charge*. Told the man that the item had been sold and moved to the next item. After the auction the man said he just wanted to get Keith's attention so he could bid on other items. Keith remembered him alright...Number 312.

During a livestock sale it is common for a donkey to lead the cattle into the arena. After one late evening auction he returned to his truck in the dark to find a burro in the truck's cab. Knowing who would have done it, he drove on home with the burro that lived for many years in Keith's pasture. The perpetrators were afraid to ask Keith what happen.

Another sale included antique toy tractors and implements. When on small combine got to a \$850 bid, the owner stopped the bidding to ask Keith if that was \$8.50. No, \$850. "That's

more than I paid for the big combine in the barn!" The sale continued.

At one farm auction the bid was up to \$1.1 million when a man walked in late in silk running shorts and hooded sweat shirt and half shaven and raised the bid. Keith, who was on the floor watching for bidders, went over to the man to ask if he knew what he had just bid and what the terms of the sale here. Yes, he did. The man was and purchased the property for a auto dealer in the county.

A most unusual item was an old fashioned coffin with a skeleton inside turned into a coffee table with a glass top to show the skeleton. He did call the Dayton Police to see if OK to sell. It was.

Keith felt he has been blessed as both sons have joined the business. He finished with a long story about a roaring lion that got shot after eating a bull. The moral being Not to yell to loud when full of Bull!

Assignments – Please Mark your Calendars		
	May 6, 2008	June 3, 2008
Greeter	Craig Eicher	Robyn Caupp
Invocation	Terry Hall	David Thompson
Music	John Meyer	Kent Martin
Sgt. At Arms	Brian Liming	Todd McManus
Minutes	Kim Sease	Tim Haney
Program	Dave Wedderburn	Dave Williamson
	May 13, 2008	June 10, 2008
Greeter	Ron Roth	Don Anderson
Invocation	Rock McColaugh	Cliff Johnson
Music	Bart Sheridan	John LeBlanc
Sgt. At Arms	Brian Liming	Todd McManus
Minutes	Jeff Eyrich	Bill Flaute
Program	Steve Weeks	Rick Williamson
	May 20, 2008	June 17, 2008
Greeter	Andy Pope	Terry Thomas
Invocation	John LaBlanc	Kim Sease
Music	Bart Sheridan	John LeBlanc
Sgt. At Arms	Brian Liming	Todd McManus
Minutes	David Spriggs	Gloria Roth
Program	Steve Stanek	Don Anderson
	May 27, 2008	June 24, 2008
Greeter	Tony Deaton	Todd Reichley
Invocation	Jeff Brock	Bart Sheridan
Music	Kent Martin	Gloria Roth
Sgt. At Arms	Brian Liming	Todd McManus
Minutes	Ron Roth	Tony Sculimbrene
Program	Kevin Wichman	Club Assembly

The word 'politics' is derived from the word 'poly', meaning 'many', and the word 'ticks', meaning 'blood sucking parasites'. **Larry Hardiman**

ABC's of Rotary Vocational Service

Vocational Service is the second Avenue of Service. No aspect of Rotary is more closely related to each member than a personal commitment to represent one's vocation or occupation to fellow Rotarians, and to exemplify the characteristics of high ethical standards and the dignity of work. Programs of vocational service are those that seek to improve business relations while improving the quality of trades, industry, commerce, and the professions. Rotarians understand that each person makes a valuable contribution to a better society through daily activities in a business or profession.

Vocational Service is frequently demonstrated by offering young people career guidance, occupational information, and assistance in making vocational choices. Some clubs sponsor high school career conferences. Many recognize the dignity of employment by honoring exemplary service of individuals working in their communities. The 4-Way Test and other ethical and laudable business philosophies are often promoted among young people entering the world of work. Vocational talks and discussion of business issues are also typical Vocational Service programs at most clubs.

Regardless of the ways in which Vocational Service is expressed, it is the banner by which Rotarians "recognize the worthiness of all useful occupations" and demonstrate a commitment to "high ethical standards in all businesses and professions?" That's why the second Avenue of Service is fundamental to every Rotary club.

Elderly Humor -

An Elderly gentlemen had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100%.

The elderly gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said, "Your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again."

The gentleman replied, "Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!"

Two elderly gentlemen from a retirement center were sitting on a bench under a tree when one turns to the other and says: "Slim, I'm 83 years old now and I'm just full of aches and pains. I know you're about my age. How do you feel?"

Slim says, "I feel just like a newborn baby."

"Really? Like a newborn baby!?"

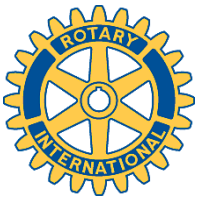
"Yep. No hair, no teeth, and I think I just wet my pants."

Three old guys are out walking.

First one says, "Windy, isn't it?"

Second one says, "No, it's Thursday!"

Third one says, "So am I. Let's go get a beer."



ROTARY CLUB OF XENIA, OHIO

P.O. BOX 311

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www.xeniarotary.com

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2007 – 2008

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