



Service above self...

# OWENSBORO'S ROTARY IMPETUS

...since 1915

Vol. 53, No. 18

Published weekly by the Owensboro, Kentucky Rotary Club

November 10, 2008

## Programs

### This Week's Program:

Dr. Crystal McMahan

### Upcoming Programs:

Nov. 19 Barry Carden - Goodfellows Club

Nov. 26 Thanksgiving Program

## Happy Birthday to...

**Gordon Barnett** – Nov. 10

**Wendell Booth** – Nov. 13

**Guy Hisle** – Nov. 16

**Shirley Cecil** – Nov. 16



## Uganda Update

Good news from Igulika! We've received word that the work is done and water is flowing well into the tank at the top of the hill.

## Your President Speaks...

Well, regardless of your politics, we all have to agree that this has been a momentous election to have an African American win the White House. I believe that it signals a very real shift in the way the world will look at us now, with racial prejudice in the US hopefully becoming relegated to the history books and coming to an end with this generation.

It also really illustrates how Rotary has always been colorblind and a much more enlightened citizen of the world community than our own country. RI is and has been a beacon for doing good and spreading the messages of peace, tolerance, equality and helping our fellow man; and it has been steadily communicating those values for decades.

I am proud of our heritage in Rotary and I am proud of our Club. I am proud of those of you who have had the scales fall from your eyes and have begun to see the potential for what can be accomplished! And I am proud of those who have joined with me in moving this Club forward toward doing more and being more. We are seeking more involvement, so don't be shy! Let me know you want to participate.

I look forward to giving you a detailed update on all that is going on in Owensboro Rotary at our next Club Assembly on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. There is a bunch!! And this big bird hasn't even gotten off the ground yet!!

### THINK BIGGER!!!

See you next week,  
*President Tom*

## Meeting Notes from November 5, 2008

**PRAYER, PLEDGE & 4-WAY TEST:** Ed Allen

**ATTENDANCE & GUESTS:** Kim Johnson reported 77 members and 2 guests present.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Congratulations to John Kazlauskas on his election to the Owensboro City Commission!

**Alma Randolph Patton** announced that the Alma Randolph Charitable Foundation fund-raiser will be held November 15 at 6:30 p.m. at RiverPark Center. Tickets are \$15.00 a person.

**President Tom Smith** announced that the Club's major fund-raiser will be a Bourbon Heritage Celebration held on Valentine's Day. The event will include a dinner, dance, silent auction, raffle and Bourbon tasting. He asked for the Club's support and for volunteers to help with the event.

**NEW MEMBER INDUCTION:** Sister Suzanne Sims introduced new member **Kenneth Palmer**. Kenneth, an associate professor at the University of Louisville, is conducting cancer research in Owensboro as part of a joint venture between OMHS and U of L. Originally from Zimbabwe, Kenneth married in Ireland. He and his wife, Petra, have four children and one on the way.

**PROGRAM:** Gordon Wilkerson introduced Tracy Marksberry from the Learning Community, an organization working to promote learning for life as the key to our community's economic future and residents' quality of life. She shared that only 22% of adults in our community have higher than a high school education. This is well below the national average. She is encouraged by high school/college collaborations to promote engineering, nursing and the improvement of transition from high school to college. One program that has seen great success is Imagination Library. This program, founded by Dolly Parton, provides books to children from birth through age five on a monthly basis. Research indicates that introducing children to books and reading at an early age improves their ability to succeed later in life.



**OWENSBORO ROTARY CLUB FOUNDATION, Inc.**

P.O. Box 1824  
Owensboro, KY 42302-1824  
270-684-3237

My Dear Fellow Rotarians,

It is with great pleasure that I send this attachment to our weekly IMPETUS to make a very important announcement. One of our primary goals for this Rotary Year was to establish a major strategic **Annual Fund Raiser**. Instead of the UK Exhibition Basketball game, which, due to NCAA rules, is not a possibility for next year at least, the Board has passed on a great alternative idea.

This will be a unique event that Owensboro has never seen. A semiformal affair, it will include *free limo service, a dinner, dance (Velvet Bombers), Silent Auction, Raffle AND Bourbon Tasting*. We have obtained sanctioning by the **Kentucky Distillers Association**, which means that they will assist in inviting to our event all nine major KY Distillers, and is an **Official Kentucky Bourbon Tasting**. It is going to be called Rotary's **Bourbon Heritage Celebration**, and it will be held at the **Old Medley Distillery**, 2301 Ebach St., in west Owensboro, on **Valentines Day, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009, 6PM to 12PM**. The old Bottling Room is being converted into a Visitors Center, and it is a venue unlike any you have ever seen! The place is so historic and rich in true KY tradition, and as they renovate, we will be able to expand into other interesting rooms with the potential to host several hundred in future years.

Our first **Annual Fundraiser Committee** meeting was this week after Rotary and we are well underway in the planning stages. This letter is to appeal to your better Rotary instincts and your desire to be a part of a milestone for our Club. This is the first Annual Fundraiser our Club has undertaken in over 30 years, near as we can tell. Proceeds will go to our own **Owensboro Rotary Foundation**, a 501(3)C org., which gives through our dues only, contributions to numerous charitable groups in the Owensboro area and to our Uganda Water Project, to the tune of \$38,000 last year. All tickets and donations are tax-deductible, and can be applied to the 2009 tax year. We are on a mission to build up our Foundation to \$1 million, when we can increase our giving substantially and expand our reach. We expect full media coverage and it will be the highlight of the winter social season for Owensboro!

Ticket costs will be \$100 per ticket, and **Sponsorships and Donors** are actively being sought right now. With very limited seating (est. 160), we expect to sell out and book all our Sponsors very soon, but **you as a Rotary member** are getting the very first chance to participate. Sponsorships are as follows:

<b>\$2,000 Single Barrel Level</b>	<b>Includes:</b>	<b>VIP table for 8, logo on all printings</b>
<b>\$1,500 Reserve Level</b>		<b>VIP table for 6, logo on all printings</b>
<b>\$1,000 Premium Level</b>		<b>4 Free tickets, logo on all printings</b>
<b>\$ 500 Mash Level</b>		<b>2 Free tickets, logo on all printings</b>

We are seeking Rotarians and their companies to participate first, and need to get responses right away to reserve the best tables for you. (**BKD and Champion Ford** have already stepped up as major sponsors, thanks to Jeff and Bruce!!). Each member who does not buy a sponsorship will be able to buy tickets first, for a limited time, before they go on sale to the general public. So, volunteer to serve on the committee and get our Fundraiser off the ground, and get your company name in early as a major Sponsor. Checks or Money Orders only are accepted to **Owensboro Rotary Foundation**. Mail them to the address on this letter, or bring to the meeting, but hurry! First come first serve!!

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2008/09  
Rotary International  
Theme

### *The 4-Way Test*

*Of the things we think, say or do:*

- *Is it the Truth?*
- *Is it fair to all concerned?*
- *Will it build good will and better friendships?*
- *Will it be beneficial to all concerned?*

### Rotary Reminders

- Don't forget to make up your missed meetings at Daviess County Rotary at Moonlite at 7 am on Tuesday.
- If you have an email address and are not receiving the *Impetus* online, or you have changed your email address, please send that information to **[kim@mediaworksadvertising.com](mailto:kim@mediaworksadvertising.com)**.

Please mail any questions, suggestions, or comments regarding the *Impetus* to:

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Owensboro, Kentucky 42303

**Visit Owensboro Rotary on the Web!**

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

### Meeting Information

**Meeting Time:**

Every Wednesday at 12:00 noon

**Meeting Location:**

Owensboro Country Club  
400 E. Byers Avenue  
Owensboro, Kentucky 42303

**2008/09 Club Officers**

President: Tom Smith  
Vice President: Patty Ray  
Past President: Patrick McNulty  
Secretary: Dean Ehrenheim  
Treasurer: Bob Nation