



Service above self...

# OWENSBORO'S ROTARY IMPETUS

...since 1915

Vol. 53, No. 27

Published weekly by the Owensboro, Kentucky Rotary Club

January 26, 2009

## Programs

**This Week's Program:**  
Club Assembly

**Upcoming Programs:**

Feb. 4 Vicki Ellis – West KY Regional  
Blood Center

Program Chair for February is **Mike Filbin**

## Your President Speaks...

The momentous history that we saw as the Presidential Inauguration unfolded January 20th, signaled a new day in America! President Obama mentioned many things on his agenda that Rotary already has been involved in for years. Better education, improving health care, helping the least advantaged among us, and extending clean water and a better life to regions of extreme poverty in the world.

What a big job awaits this young man, but what an energy and activism he brings to the task! Over a million people witnessed first-hand the ushering in of a new regime, which is as yet untested, but promises to "push the envelope" and ask for the citizens of this country to sacrifice, to roll up their sleeves and get to involved. Whatever your politics, it is a new day... by necessity, in the USA. Many things we have taken for granted our entire lives are broken and must be fixed, as witnessed by our speaker's presentation last Wednesday.

In a very small way, I can relate to the task ahead for Barack Obama! As your president I have attempted to push the agenda of participation and more activism in our club this year. Take a look at our newest members and their attitude toward Rotary! The Rookies embody the future of our club and they have told me - almost unanimously - that they want to be a part of something with direction and energy. They want to make a difference and give back to this community and the world. It is the mandate of RI that we stretch ourselves and initiate new and better ways to do just that. I am proud of where this Club is going... I hope you are.

So we wish you God Speed, Mr. President. This Rotary Club is already on the track of more selfless giving and outreach to those in need. Maybe now the rest of the country will catch on! **THINK BIGGER!!**

See you next week, *President Tom*

**SILENT  
AUCTION  
ITEMS  
NEEDED**



for Owensboro Rotary's  
*Bourbon Heritage  
Celebration*

Help us make our Foundation fundraiser a success! Call **Barbara Poynter** at 240-4007 to donate items.

## Meeting Notes from January 21, 2009

**PRAYER, PLEDGE & 4-WAY TEST:** Glen Sowards

**ATTENDANCE & GUESTS:** Kenneth Palmer reported 69 members and two guests present. One of the two guests was Jennifer Duper, a Western Kentucky University student interested in the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship program.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- **Mike Filbin** is still hospitalized in Nashville. He'll be having surgery this week.
- Barbara Poynter reported that the Rotary Bourbon Heritage Celebration is sold out and she is beginning a waiting list. She requested items for the Silent Auction. Get the items to her and she'll "wrap them up, put on a bow and make them 'purty'"

**PROGRAM:** Jeff Ebelhar introduced fellow Rotarian **Darrell Higginbotham**. Darrell is current Chair of the Greater Owensboro Economic Development Corporation and has numerous years of experience in the banking industry. Darrell acknowledged that our economy is going through a major shakeup. Fortunately, most community banks remain strong and well-rated. Knowledge of the local economic landscape is one of the major factors contributing to the strength of community banks. Darrell reported that there were 25 bank failures in 2008, compared to 534 bank failures in 1989. He said many banks, the ones doing business right, are strong and doing well. Unfortunately, the media doesn't always like to report good news and tends to focus only on negative issues. Darrell is optimistic that our banking foundations and principles will see us through this difficult era and that our nation will remain strong and secure.

*Happy Birthday to...*

**Randy Spaw** – January 27

**J. Todd Inman** – February 1



**POSTMASTER:**  
Send address changes to

**IMPETUS**  
**OWENSBORO ROTARY CLUB**  
2707 Breckenridge Street  
Owensboro, KY 42303

PERIODICALS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
OWENSBORO, KY  
42301



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:

Impetus Editor  
c/o Owensboro Rotary Club  
2707 Breckenridge Street  
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