



Service above self...

# OWENSBORO'S ROTARY IMPETUS

...since 1915

Vol. 53, No. 29

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## Programs

### This Week's Program:

JAT Mountjoy - Dental Clinic

### Upcoming Programs:

Feb. 25 Fred Reeves - Downtown Development

## Memories of India...

At Wednesday's meeting Rotarian **Ankur Gopal** shared memories of his visits to India. Ankur told of the basic, meager surroundings of his family's home there and his gratitude for the foresight of his mother and father who moved to America for a better life. At the same time, his parents felt it very important to instill in Ankur an appreciation for Indian culture with regular visits back to India...making sure he lived with family in their humble home. Ankur shared that this experience has helped shape his desire to help others and is a big reason why he joined Rotary.

## Your President Speaks...

For those of you who attend our new Annual Fund Raiser, Rotary's Bourbon Heritage Celebration Saturday night, I want to thank you for your support. We will serve 225 dinners and it will be a milestone event that we hope to replicate and grow every year from now on. I also want to thank those Rotarians who supported the AFR Committee with their donations of money, silent auction items, and in-kind supplies and services. YOU know who you are and you are most appreciated!!

The first most important key to a Rotary Club having a successful fund raiser is for the membership to believe in it and get behind it whole hog. With about two-thirds of our attendees being Rotarians and their wives or husbands, we have met that criterion. And after the success of something new more people will jump on board for the next one. We hope that is what happens this time next year, when we plan to sell more tickets and raise even more \$\$ for our Foundation and for our charitable giving... because that is what it is all about! Special thanks to **Chris Poynter and Barbara**, without whom this thing would not have come about, particularly in such a short time. You guys are truly dedicated souls and we appreciate your sacrifice and effort!

Ask someone to come to lunch on Wednesday and **THINK BIGGER!!!**

See you next week,  
*President Tom*

## Meeting Notes from February 11, 2009

**PRAYER, PLEDGE & 4-WAY TEST:** David Nelson

**ATTENDANCE & GUESTS:** Kenneth Palmer reported 56 members and 5 guests present.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Saturday's Bourbon Heritage Celebration is sold out with 240 guests. There will be 7 distillers. **President Tom Smith** especially thanked the Rotarians who have helped sponsor the event.

**PROGRAM:** President Tom introduced Rob Blackham, president of the Daviess County Rotary Club. Rob introduced his club's secretary, Pam Cox, and the three high school contestants in this year's Rotary Speech Contest. The contest, which is jointly sponsored by the Daviess County and Owensboro Clubs, was held Tuesday, February 10, at the Daviess County Rotary Club. Andrea Schepers from Owensboro High School took top honors, with second place going to Sean Meloney from Daviess County High School and third place to Jarred Gillette from the Triplett School. The students then shared their speeches, presenting information about Rotary International in an eloquent, masterful delivery. President Tom presented each student a cash award for participating.

A Club Assembly followed the speech presentations during which **Drew Kirkland**, chair of the Student Loan Committee, reported on the status of the loan program. Drew thanked **Patty Ray** for her hard work in bringing all account information up to date. President Tom took a few minutes to review his presidency to date. His goal is to rally the club to greater service and activism. This year we began the Rookies Club, the Legends group, created the first annual fundraiser in many years, revitalized the Rotary Student Loan program and more. There is more to do... Tom gave examples such as supplying villages in Africa with mosquito nets, adopting a village, creating more clean water wells, etc. Tom believes we have great potential within our club and feels it is his calling to motivate us to achieve it.



2009 Rotary Speech Contest

L to R: **President Tom Smith; contestants Andrea Schepers, Sean Meloney, and Jarred Gillette; and Daviess County Club President Rob Blackman**

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2008/09  
Rotary International  
Theme



## 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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**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