



Service above self...

OWENSBORO'S ROTARY IMPETUS

...since 1915

Vol. 53, No. 46

Published weekly by the Owensboro, Kentucky Rotary Club

June 8, 2009

Programs

This Week's Program: KY National Guard

Upcoming Programs:

- June 17 Don Pendleton, KY Dept. of Criminal Justice
- June 24 Bob Arnold, Exec. Director, KY Assoc. of Counties

Meeting Notes from June 3

PRAYER, PLEDGE & 4-WAY TEST:

Roger Coomes

ATTENDANCE & GUESTS:

Mike Bruce

NEW MEMBER INDUCTION:

Jeff Oldham introduced new member **Stan Conn**. Stan is general manager of Owensboro Municipal Utilities.

PROGRAM:

Jeff Nalley, Cromwell Group

Your President Speaks...

The main idea behind Rotary that captures my imagination like no other organization is its worldwide inter-connectedness. Last summer when we started working on our own Uganda Water Project in earnest, the contacts I had made at the LA International Convention put us in touch with exactly the right people within days via email. Within two weeks, we had found the Rotary Club in Fort Portal, Uganda and had secured the necessary "Host Rotary Club" so that our project could move forward. And I am still communicating with those Rotarians in Africa today.

If you read the *Rotarian Magazine* monthly, you know it is like a world tour with stories from all parts of the globe about the good works Rotary is doing. You'll find pictures of water wells, polio immunizations, and the building of bridges and sanitation facilities. And there in the photos, smiling and joyous, are always the children. Because it is the children that we target to help first. Those who are helpless and the most vulnerable to the poverty, corruption and hardness of the world... that's what we are about first and foremost!

President-Elect **Patty Ray** and AG **Pat McFarling** are going to Birmingham, England for this year's convention. We wish them Godspeed and ask that they bring back the stories of Rotarians around the world to further motivate us into action and outreach. **THINK BIGGER!!!**

See you next week,
President Tom

Solar Cooking: It's much more than making sun tea!

According to the World Health Organization, more than half of the world's population currently relies on biomass (wood, animal dung and crop residue) for cooking. Solar cooking could provide an alternative. Our fellow Rotarian **Hervey Howell** has been experimenting...

Cooking consumes hydrocarbon resources. It is a problem for at least one billion people in the world who have to collect firewood or buy charcoal, and this is now being done faster than trees are being replenished. Solar cooking has been suggested as an alternative, and many designs exist. Here is a picture of three designs at work in my backyard.

One design is just an insulated black cardboard box with reflector panels and a glass cover to retain the heat. The air temperature in the box can get up to 250F in the middle of the day, as long as it is empty. If one puts a soda can of water in it, the temperature drops dramatically, and it takes an age to get close to boiling. Even so, a water temperature of 170F is high enough to pasteurize water, and that is attained reasonably quickly. Many foods we usually boil to cook quickly can be prepared by several hours at 170F.

Another design is a focusing mirror, in this case built with papier-mâché and aluminum foil. The cooking utensil is suspended at the focal point, in this case half a radius from the back of a 32" diameter hemisphere. A small container of water can be maintained at a gentle boil for an extended period.

In Africa a cook would have to be pretty desperate to use something like this. In a refugee camp where women routinely risk rape while collecting firewood, a solar stove would have some appeal. The basic problem is that the stove does not capture BTUs fast enough, so cooking would take all of a sunny day. Families tend to be large, and the quantities prepared would not be sufficient.

If I take this any further, it will be to build a larger diameter focusing mirror, and develop cooking techniques that involve bringing something to the boil, then sticking it in a hay box to perk on its own. One might perhaps have an African meal ready by suppertime in this manner.

– Hervey Howell



Happy Birthday to...

Jack Wells – June 9 • Ed Pulliam – June 13

Bob Hudson – June 14



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

**** Committee Reminder ****

**THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES WILL MEET THIS
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, AT 1:00 PM:**

- **College Loan** - Drew Kirkland, Chair
- **Fellowship Table**

Anyone interested is invited to stay and attend.

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.

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

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