



SERVICE Above Self

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<http://www.RotaryInUrbana.org> Club # 3294

Repartee for August 21, 2007

President [Deb Rugg](#) welcomed us to the August 21st meeting of the Urbana Rotary Club.

Greeter: [Kermit Harden](#) introduced our **visitors:** from Champaign--[Robert Driver](#) and [Andre Arrington](#) with guest [Carol Mihina](#); Champaign-West-- [Rachael Wright](#).

Member with guest: [Don Uchtmann](#) with [Marco Parzianello](#) from Brazil.

Make-ups: CU-Sunrise--[Donald Wendel](#); Champaign-- [David Gross](#), and Rhinelander, Wisconsin--[Judith Maloney](#) and [John Maloney](#).

Thought for the Day: [Don Uchtmann](#) provided a reflection on the start of the new school year and our many blessings.

Music: Today was Marilyn Kay's debut as song leader. She very capably led us accompanied by [Willie Summerville](#) and [Dan Perrino](#) at the piano. We sang "Oh What a Beautiful Morning".

Sergeant-at-Arms: [Ralph Langenheim](#) generated many items of good news including:

[Mike Frerichs](#) reported that he really is a member and not just a visitor.

[Brendan McGinty](#) said that son, Jake, is having a wonderful time in Japan and is recording his experience by way of a daily blog. When asked to send the blog to Rotary, Brendan hesitated, saying that the content just might possibly be inappropriate for public postings.

[Bill Volk](#), aka the *jokemeister*, provided us with top ten Bee jokes in honor of our guest speaker:

- 10) Who is the bee's favorite singer? Sting
- 9) What kind of bees hums and drop things? Fumble bees
- 8) What did the bee say to the flower? Hello honey
- 7) What are bee's favorite flowers? Beegonias
- 6) Can bees fly in the rain? Not without their little yellow jackets
- 5) What are the cleverest bees? Spelling Bees
- 4) Why do bees buzz? Because they can't whistle
- 3) What do you call a bee that's had a spell put on him? Bee-witched
- 2) What do bees chew? Bumble gum

and Bill's favorite:

- 1) What's a bee-line? The shortest distance between two buzz-stops

Announcements:

Annual Dues are due! Please send your dues to [Tom Brown](#) or [Kermit Harden](#).

[Pres. Deb](#) heard from [James Quisenberry](#). He says that helping with Rotary actually helps him cope with the loss of his father.

[Skip Pickering](#) said that Swami picks start next week. You can sign a form to give a blanket "go with the swami picks" on days when you are unable to attend meetings. [Don Uchtmann](#) asked if you could choose "go with the opposite of what the swami picks?"!

[Harry Clem](#) announced that there would be a brief meeting immediately following today's meeting to discuss plans for the Martin Luther King event.

[Lissa May](#) announced that [Doris Wenzel](#) had to step down as repartee editor for good reasons—her business is doing well and they are moving to a new location. Lissa is happy to help with the repartee but would like to ask other members to assist. If you are able to help, please plan to attend a Communications Committee meeting immediately following next week's meeting, Aug. 28 or contact Lissa at 217.333.7285.

[Dan Perrino](#) encouraged us to sign up for a special night out to see "To Kill a Mockingbird" at Parkland College.

[Willie Summerville](#) said it was his birthday. He shares the date with Marcus Garvey and Davy Crockett.

Last week's speaker, [Cecily Smith](#), followed up with some answers to her presentation. It takes three gallons of water to make one gallon of ethanol. Also, please do not flush medication/pharmaceuticals down the toilet. Place them in a Ziploc bag or keep them in the medicine container to keep them out of the landfill and ground water.

Today's Program:

[Debbie Day](#) introduced [Dr. May Berenbaum](#), Professor of Entomology at the University of Illinois. May gave us a talk entitled "Bees, CCD, and the GNP". May is known internationally and an expert on chemical ecology, function of insects, and the toxicity of plant chemicals. She is also famous for the introduction of the [Insect Fear Film Festival](#).

May's talk was about pollination and insects a.k.a. sex education. She said that flowers have a major disadvantage in finding a mate as they are deeply rooted in the ground. They supply the stamen and pistil and pollen (the equivalent of male sperm) but they require assistance in order to be able to reproduce. Wind is not an effective assistant as it is unfocused. Bees, wasps, butterflies, moths, and beetles provide the most assistance in pollination. May provided some examples: figs depend on a specific tiny little wasp to keep them going, chocolate is helped by "no-see-ums", and African cacao is assisted by gnats. 80% of US crops depend on animal pollinators. It is a \$14 billion industry with pollination primarily provided by bees. The disappearance of bees has understandably caused concerns. We are experiencing colony collapse. 2/3 – 3/4 of workers bees are reported as lost. Concern seems to be warranted.

May also notes that beekeeping is an industry that has undergone very few changes since the 19th century.

A musician in the crowd noted that "if we don't [C Sharp](#), we'll [B Flat](#), and it is better to [B natural](#).

Next Week's Program:

Our District Governor, [Dick Wagner](#), will make his official visit.

District Newsletter link:

<http://www.Rotary6490.org/Newsletter.cfm>