



SERVICE Above Self

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

Urbana Country Club – Tuesdays – Noon

Upcoming Events:

March 25, 2008 - "WILL's Ready To Learn Programs"

WILL Outreach Coordinator, [Molly Delaney](#); *Introduction by [Marilyn Kay](#)*

The Rotary District Meeting is May 2-3, 2008. Mark your calendars and plan to join us!

There will be a Rotary District 6490 dinner on April 9, 2008 at 5:30 with guest speakers [John Wright](#) and [Michael Smith](#). Donors please watch for your personal invitation.

[Naomi Jakobsson](#) invites us to attend a regional hearing prior to a General Assembly to address budget challenges faced by Illinois. Please come to Parkland College on March 18, 2008, at 6:00 p.m. in Building D to participate. Numbers of attendees matter!

Repertee for March 18, 2008

[Gerri Kirchner](#) welcomed us to the Urbana Rotary Club as [Pres. Deb](#) was still on a train heading into town.

Greeter: [Barry Suits](#) introduced our visitors:

From Champaign—[Carl Meyer](#) and from Champaign West—[Mark Dixon](#)

Members with guests: [Loren Bode](#) with guest, [Bob Rasmus](#)

[Ray Elliott](#) with wife, [Vanessa Faurie](#), and daughters [Jessica](#) and [Caitlin](#)

Special guest Marines: [Roy Charles](#), [Lawrence “Slats” Trower](#), and [Ed Barstow](#)

Make-ups: none

Thought for the Day: [Bob Bender](#) spoke to us of freedom, patriotism, and peace

Music: [Dan Perrino](#) was at the piano. [Steve Shoemaker](#) led us in the Marine Hymn and then a surprise version of “the Old Gray Mare”. [Roscoe Pershing](#) also shared that the music committee is redoing the song books and would welcome our suggestions on songs to add or delete.

Announcements:

[John Muirhead](#) reminded us to nominate a member of our community who is not an Urbana Rotarian for the Vocational Service award.

[Anna Merritt](#) is seeking a male Rotarian to help with a Prairie School 2nd grade youth who is in need of a buddy/mentor. The commitment will last between now and the end of the school year and entails less than one hour per week of time. For safety reasons, volunteers are fingerprinted. Anna can answer any questions you may have. Thanks for your help!

[Don Uchtmann](#) shared the following: Calling Urbana Rotarians!!! International Hospitality Opportunity

A Rotary Group Study Exchange team from South Korea is expected to arrive in the CU community April 19th (staying in a HOTEL that night) and subsequently staying in CU area Rotarian homes from Sunday night, April 20, through at least Thursday night, April 24th (and maybe through Friday or Saturday nights).

The Urbana Club has agreed to provide housing for

Mr. Tae-Sung Lee (a 24-year old male, and member of the Korea Electric Research Institute)

The Host Rotarian will need to provide overnight accommodations and related transportation in the mornings and evenings between the Rotarian's home and the daily pick up and drop off points but will not need to spend the day with the GSE team member.

Please advise Don Uchtmann, Chair of the Urbana Rotary International Hospitality Committee (Uchtmann@uiuc.edu), if you would like to host Mr. Lee for either three or six nights. Please specify your preference for ...

- a. The nights of Sunday, April 20, through Tuesday, April 22
- b. The nights of Wednesday, April 23, through Friday, April 25 (+ or – one night)
- c. All nights from Sunday, April 20, through Friday, April 25 (+ or – one night)

Sergeant at Arms: [Joe Rank](#) took good news from the club

[Ed Scharlau](#) never thought he'd see the day when Busey Bank is worth more than Bear Stearns!

[Barry Weiner](#) guessed [Doris Wenzel's](#) favorite commercial for Cadillac and Doris, as agreed, contributed \$20 to the shoe.

[Lissa May](#) donated her 9th gallon of blood to the Blood Bank today and encourages others to donate if they are eligible to do so.

Today's program: [Dan Perrino](#) introduced our speaker and fellow Rotarian, [Ray Elliott](#), who spoke on "Iwo Jima, The Pivotal Battle of the Pacific in World War II" In the audience were many World War II vets including: [Roy Charles](#), [Lawrence "Slats" Trower](#), [Ed Barstow](#), [Dick Cogdal](#), [Brud Leighton](#), [Sam Gove](#), [Riley McCulley](#), [Bob Mussey](#), and [Howie Wakeland](#). (if I missed anyone, please let me know and I will include you in the next newsletter!)

Iwo Jima was a pivotal battle in World War II. Securing the island helped provide a necessary landing strip between Hawaii and Japan. The Japanese arrived in advance of US troops and they were thoroughly dug into the hillside. Often the Americans never saw a Japanese soldier as they were hidden in the upper reaches of the terrain. The Americans faced the difficult challenge of trying to make forward progress on the volcanic ash which was compared to walking on shelled ear corn.

The first and most famous photo was taken on Feb. 23, 1945, when the marines raised the US flag. The photographer had only one chance to catch the photo. A subsequent photo was taken showing our marines posing in front of the flag. When asked if the photo was posed, Joe Rosenthal answered in the affirmative, thinking the question referred to the second photo. The first photo was **not** posed and in fact, Joe Rosenthal was not even sure he successfully captured the image.

The capture of Iwo Jima caused tremendous losses on both sides.

Americans: 6821 killed, 19217 wounded, 23573 casualties. Nearly 1/3 of the troops were killed, wounded, or suffered battle fatigue. (The Japanese were warned that they would never get off the island and therefore, before they died they should take ten American lives.)

Japanese: It is estimated that 20,000 were killed and 1083 captured as Prisoners of War.

America has since returned Iwo Jima to the Japanese and Americans are allowed to visit the island one day every year. There are memorials on the island to honor both the American and Japanese who gave their lives in this battle.

Remains are still being discovered on the island with approximately 35 Americans still MIA.

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

Written by [Lissa May](#)