



# Interfaces

*Providing Services to International College Students & Department of State Visitors*



## ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

The Annual Awards Dinner and Annual Meeting took place on Sunday evening, May 21 at the RIT Inn and Conference Center. Both new and long-time members attended the event and enjoyed meeting each other.

The social hour preceding dinner inaugurated the silent auction of lovely and interesting items, including homemade desserts and other goodies offered by some of our members. The Spanish-costumed English-singing teddy bears were a great hit and one of the more coveted items of the evening. There was a flurry of bidding at the last minute, resulting in surprises when the winners were announced. Thank you one and all to those who contributed items, those who solicited items, and those who were the high bidders. (The auction items and

donors are listed on page 6)

**Hank McLeod** called the Annual Meeting to order before dinner was served. Hank gave a report of the many accomplishments of RIC during the year and announced the results of the annual elections. Officers and Board members were introduced to the membership. (The board is listed on page 4)

Awards were then presented to those who have done so much to further the mission of RIC. (See Award Winners article on page 2)

Many thanks to those who made the evening successful: **Linda Downes**, who made the dinner arrangements; **Susan Quick Rice**, chair of the Awards committee; **Jim Genthner**, Master of Ceremonies; **Cookie Campbell**, who staffed the check in table; and those who assisted with the raffle and auction: **Jane Cole**, **Valera** and **Bob D'Esopo**, **Audra Dion**, **Brian Fleming**, **Christine Long**, **Linda** and **Bernard O'Connor**, and **Judy Weinstein**.

## ➔ NOTICES FOR FRIENDSHIP VOLUNTEERS

For many years, we have divided our membership among two Friendship Volunteer placement coordinators. For the past two years, **Jane Cole** was the coordinator for the first half of the alphabet, while **Sheila McLeod** was responsible for the second half. Jane kept track of members' interests so that she could successfully match students with members. For the new academic year, Sheila, with the help of **Hank**, will be responsible for placing all students with Friendship Volunteers. It looks as if the numbers of applications are up, so please accept new students this year.

Many of our members have 'adopted' international students in addition to those assigned by the RIC placement coordinator. Your assigned student enjoys your activities and brings a friend along and suddenly you have one more student! That's fine with us. But, we ask that you send the office the name and school of your new student so that we can provide the universities with an accurate count of the students that we serve. Should you find that you really don't have room for one more, suggest that the student apply for a Friendship Volunteer.

Some of you have not returned a signed membership agreement or automobile insurance form. We will be sending you another copy soon. Please return them before they have a chance to be misplaced.

This publication is funded in part by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State under the authority of the Fulbright-Hays Act of 1961, amended.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



**Brenda Berry  
Gale Lynch**

## IN THE NEWS

The May/June 2006 issue of the Rochester Women's Newsletter featured an article about a group of our international visitors from Belarus who met with RWN board members. **Josephine M. Perini**, our program officer, arranged for the meeting as part of the program for journalists interested in reporting on economic and trade issues.

## INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

Numerous groups from the International Visitor Leadership Program have come to Rochester for their programming. The visiting groups are listed below, including the dates they were in Rochester, the program titles, the home country, and the number of visitors.

October 8–13, 2005, **The Role of NGOs in Promoting Mutual Understanding & NGO Management**, Korea, 5

October 12–15, **Independence of the Judiciary and Administration of Courts**, Ukraine, 6

October 22–26, **Regional Maritime Security and Environmental Issues**, China, 1

November 9–11, **Role of Public-Private Partnerships in Supporting at-Risk Youth**, Ukraine, 5

January 29–February 2, 2006, **Multiculturalism in the United States**, Thailand, 2

February 19–22, **Civil Society**, Vietnam, 4

March 16–21, **Economic Journalism**, Belarus, 5

April 5–9, **Leadership Development for Women**, Africa, Asia, Europe, Middle East, South America, 22

April 22–26, **Local Governments in the U.S.**, Chile, 2

April 26–29, **Women in the NGO Sector**, Turkey, 4

April 27–29, **NGO Management and HIV/AIDS**, Venezuela, 1

May 6–10, **Education**, Indonesia, 1

May 13–17, **Women's Leadership in the U.S.**, Indonesia, 1

May 28–June 1, **HIV/AIDS in the U.S.**, Zimbabwe, 4

June 11–14, **Women Leaders in Politics and the Community**, Chile, 1

June 14–17, **U.S. Judicial System**, Cambodia, 5

June 17–21, **Women's Issues and Women's NGO's**, Austria, 1

June 28–30, **Judicial Selection, Appointment, and Oversight**, Ukraine, 4



Many thanks to the following members and friends of RIC for their generosity in hosting these international visitors in their homes for dinner or Sunday brunch.

Mike and Myrna Cherney

Linda Downes and Marshall Mutnick

Dorothy Drazhal and Paul Riordan

Nicole and Philip Emmett

Peggy and Brian Fleming (three programs)

Delores Kleinberg

Deb Koen

Antonia and Ed Orlando

Jen and Jay Pereña

Joan and Marvin Rosenthal (two programs)

Jean Sikora

Kay Wallace and Peter Oddleifson

Judy and Art Weinstein

If you would like further information about the programs listed above or would like to volunteer for home hospitality, please contact Josephine M. Perini at 288-5607 or [jmblackbird@yahoo.com](mailto:jmblackbird@yahoo.com). You can also contact the RIC office at 275-8779 or [jw@rife.org](mailto:jw@rife.org).

## AWARD WINNERS

As usual, the highlight of the RIC Annual Dinner was the presentation of awards. The award recipients were:

May Crowley Award

**Hank McLeod**

Distinguished Volunteer Award

**Josephine M. Perini**

Distinguished Volunteer Award

**Sheila McLeod**

Outstanding Volunteer for Service

**Phil Olmsted**

Outstanding Volunteer for Service

**Molly Morrison**

Outstanding Volunteer for Leadership

**Jim Genthner**

Special Recognition Award

**Judy Weinstein**



Josephine Perini



Maidstone Mulenga



Jeffrey Crane



Sheila McLeod & Susan Rice



Judy Weinstein & Linda Downes

Outstanding Service to the Inter-national Visitor Leadership Program - **Maidstone Mulenga**, former Global Editor of the Democrat and Chronicle, currently Weekend Editor

Outstanding Service to the International Visitor Leadership Program - **West Irondequoit Central School District**, accepted by **Jeffrey Crane**, Superintendent & **Linda Dinnocenzo**, Assistant Superintendent

Many thanks to **Susan Rice**, **Jeffrey Cox**, and **Cheryl Gavenda** for selecting these award recipients. Considering the many members who contribute their time and energy to RIC, this could not have been an easy assignment!



### President's Corner

Another academic year is now history. Our friends have graduated and we are patiently waiting to see what is in store for us in the fall semester. Of course, we never forget the great experiences with our students: the dinners, events, activities, holidays, car shopping, romances and everything else. From those gone for several or many years we hear of marriages, births, job changes and other happy events.

Memories are great, but we must look to the future! Many events are being planned for the fall, winter and spring. Save Sunday afternoon, September 10 for our Annual Welcome Reception. I will be calling some of you to help with the picnic.

This summer the Executive Committee will be refining the Strategic Plan that the Board worked on this spring. We hope to have some kind of implementation plan for the September Board meeting. Then everyone will have an opportunity to contribute to its success.

We, as an organization, must work towards increasing membership. Our goal is to place each and every student with a family that wants. I have a feeling we are going to be crushed with student applications. So far this year we are ahead in applications received, and these numbers are all RIT undergraduates. When all the applications are received, I estimate there will be about 200 applications with the capacity to place only 120. It would be terribly embarrassing if this came to pass.

*Continues on Page 4*

*Continued from Page 3*

This year Sheila and I will be teaming up to handle all placements. Think now about how many new students you would like. As you know, some students don't want families after they are here for a few months. That's why Sheila and I usually take twice as many students as we can handle. Usually, after Thanksgiving, the students get so busy they don't have time for us anymore. So, the long and short of it is, that either Hank or Sheila or both will be calling and calling (and calling) to get all these wonderful students placed. If you want to

contact us, our phone is 621-1054 and our email is HankMcLd@aol.com.

Sheila and I will be touring and ministering in Canada for the last three weeks of July. We will visit and tour areas in the Atlantic Provinces that we haven't seen before and will minister in a church in Moncton, New Brunswick for one of those weeks. We called some of you in June, but will call in earnest in August and September.

Hope you all have an enjoyable and healthy summer. See you all soon.

*Hank McLeod*

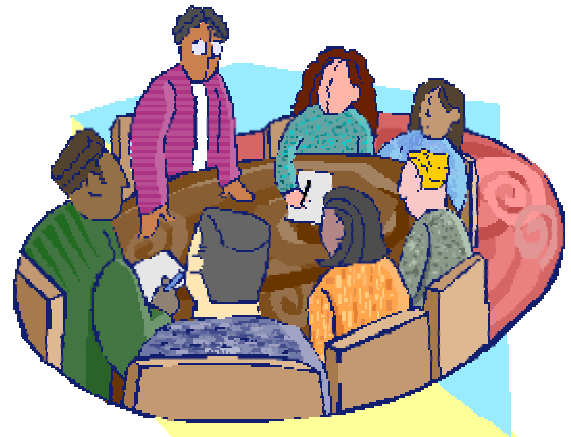
## NEWLY ELECTED BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Officers

Hank McLeod	President
Terry May	Vice President – Programming
Brian Fleming	Vice President – Administration
Mario Macias	Vice President – Development
Cheryl Gavenda	Secretary
Jim Genthner	Treasurer

### Directors

Mary Ann Campbell	Michael Messier
Audra Dion	Molly Morrison
Linda Downes	Ila Parasnis
Udo Fehn	Josephine M. Perini
Cheryl Haslinger	Doreen Smethurst
Gale Lynch	Susan Wilson



Jeff Cox and Susan Rice have stepped down from the Board after many years of service. They will be missed and we hope that we will see them at RIC events. We welcome Doreen Smethurst and Gale Lynch to the Board.

### *In Memoriam*

**Alf M. Glasoe - June 20, 2006**



In the last issue, we noted the passing of **J. Wilson Stewart**. Wil and his wife, **Fran**, were recipients of the Mildred Feinbloom Award in 2001. Although they moved to Maryland, they retained their membership in RIC and continued their generous support.

## CONTRIBUTIONS

We acknowledge and gratefully appreciate the generous contributions made above the general level of support. We have received the following contributions since the February issue of *Interfaces*:

### Contributors

**Gerald and Mary Charipar**  
**Bobbie Goheen**



**Fran Stewart** made a contribution in memory of her husband, **J. Wilson Stewart**. Thank you, Fran, for remembering us at this time.

## IF WALLS COULD TALK

Some RIC members remember international students or international visitors by taking photographs or having them sign a guest book. Amy Aldrich Bedford of the World Affairs Council Oregon has taken a different approach. For the past twenty years each international visitor receiving home hospitality at Mrs. Bedford's home is asked to paint something on the kitchen wall. There are no criteria except that each visitor needed to sign and date the picture. Some drew something they liked in the United States, others made drawings representing their home countries, still others wrote quotations. If you have interesting mementos from or memories of international visitors, please share them with us. *Excerpted from the May 2006 NCIV Network News*



---

## Rochester Summit on **CITIZEN DIPLOMACY**

April 28, 2006

More than 100 people attended the Rochester Summit on Citizen Diplomacy on April 28, 2006 at the RIT Inn and Conference Center. RIC members worked with members of several other organization and representatives of four area colleges in planning the Summit. This will give us networking capabilities for future events.

The Summit was preceded by a reception the previous evening for the Honorable Harriet Mayor Fulbright, the Summit keynote speaker, to meet with Fulbrighters in the Rochester area. The reception was hosted by Nazareth College Center for International Education.

The Summit began with welcoming remarks by Dr. Paul Burgett who serves as the University of Rochester Vice President and General Secretary, Senior Advisor to the President, and University Dean. Dr. Burgett's lively presentation encouraged attendees to embrace the world. Dr. Burgett, who views the world as his living room, concluded by describing himself as a "citizen diplomat without a portfolio." For those who have never heard Dr. Burgett speak, I urge you to do so whenever you have the opportunity.

In keeping with the theme of the day's meeting, lunch was an international buffet. Lunch was followed by a speech by the Honorable Harriet Mayor Fulbright, Chairman of the Fulbright International Center. Mrs. Fulbright spoke about the importance of our efforts to reach out internationally. She provided a beautiful image in her answer to her own question of why, in this day of mass communication, do we need to take the time and money to move people across borders to achieve an understanding of the values and attitudes of others: "Communication – visual and verbal – has passed through the filter of the producer. Seeing and hearing through the eyes and ears of another means learning one point of view. It is the difference between looking through a keyhole and walking through an open door for the whole view and even a dialogue."

The meeting ended with participants eager to continue the collaboration of the day and to get more people in the Rochester area involved in Citizen Diplomacy. The evaluation forms were all enthusiastic about the event and several people made recommendations for the Second Annual Rochester Summit on Citizen Diplomacy!

The common thread of all discussions was a desire to network with other people in the Rochester area interested in international relations and citizen diplomacy. We have established a listserv for this purpose. If you would like to join, send an email to [RochesterCoalitionofInternationalOrganizations-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:RochesterCoalitionofInternationalOrganizations-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). As a member, you will be able to discuss issues and learn of upcoming events. You can see the entire summit report at [www.rifc.org/summit.html](http://www.rifc.org/summit.html).

*Judy Weinstein*

## Raffle/Silent Auction Contributors

We wish to thank these businesses for their generous contributions to the RIC raffle and silent auction.

Agatina's	The Little Theatre	Stefan Otter Jeweler
Charlie's Frog Pond	The Lodge at Woodcliff	Stoney's Pub at Shadow Pines
Cheesy Eddie's	Midtown Athletic Club	Tantalo Studio
Creator's Hands	Olive Tree	Tapas 177
Delmonico's Italian Steakhouse	Palladio at the Hyatt Regency	Taste of India
Downstairs Cabaret	Red Osier Landmark Restaurant	Tokyo Japanese Restaurant
Geva Theatre	Remington's	2 Vine
Hicks and McCarthy	Rochester Museum & Science	Village Pig
Hogan's Hideaway	Center	Wegmans
India Palace	Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra	
Java's	Shanghai Chinese Restaurant	

Many thanks to the following members for their creative contributions to the Silent Auction:

two raspberry pies from **Nancy Brown**  
a beautiful quilt from **Lucienne Carpentier**  
box of Avon products from **Myrna Cherney**  
house "spring" cleaning or light yard work by **Lori Dabbagh**  
Spanish lessons by **Lori Dabbagh**  
New York State wine basket from **Linda Downes**  
tea basket from **Linda Downes**  
house sitting by **Andrew Fleming**  
book evaluation by **Peggy Fleming**  
six piece summer serving set from **Cheryl Gavenda**  
cheese board from Norway from **Susan Levinson**  
Japanese print from **Susan Levinson**  
framed "Doors of Rochester" from **Susan Levinson**  
ladies beaded and sterling watch by **Judith Lynd**  
two hand-crafted embossed scarves with fringe by **Denise Paley**  
two offers of desserts by **Denise Paley**  
Villeroy & Boche cache pot/planter from **Susan Rice**  
antique glass covered butter server from **Susan Rice**  
several pieces of Latin American, African, and international student art from **Marjorie Sexton**  
two unframed African batiks from **Philip and Doreen Smethurst**  
two offers of desserts by **Judy Weinstein**  
singing Spanish teddy bears from **Valera & Bob D'Esopo**



**And, of course, thanks to the members who purchased raffle tickets and sold them to friends and family and to those who bid generously on items in the auction.**

## TREASURES TO SPARE?



Do you have items that you no longer want that are not suitable for your students, yet too good to throw out? We have the solution for you!

There is a local company that will do all the work of selling your item on eBay and the proceeds will go to RIC.

We have already made one successful sale. We will send you an acknowledgment of your tax-deductible contribution.

We can sell anything that's in good condition – china, dolls, kitchen items, collectibles, etc. If you have an item to contribute, please call the office at 275-8779 or send an email to [jw@rffc.org](mailto:jw@rffc.org) and we'll discuss the simple process.

## “Ay ay ay que locura” Oh, What Madness !

Navigating the streets of downtown Rochester in the aftermath of the collapse of the South Avenue Garage was like finding my way through a labyrinth. City driving has always been a challenge to me without the added headache of closed roads and clogged traffic, with police officers standing in the middle of the street to reroute motorists. But I had made a promise to my fellow *paesana* Josephine Perini and two Chilean mayors and their interpreter were counting on me.

Hoyt Rogers, the interpreter, was there at City Hall to greet me with *tranquila, no te preocupes* (Take it easy, don't worry) when I arrived substantially late and started shouting apologies in Spanish (my voice always gets louder and higher-pitched in Spanish). He and the other two gentlemen, Carlos Arellano and Pablo Zalaquett, crowded into the back of my Nissan Sentra, while Josephine sat in the passenger seat.

The expression “backseat driver” took on a whole new meaning on the days of April 24 and April 25. I needed Josephine, who lives in the heart of the city, to tell me where to turn. While I was backing out of a tight spot at the Visitors' Center, Carlos Arellano put aside his mayoral duties to become a Driver's Education instructor. By the end of Tuesday afternoon, Pablo Zalaquett was laughing his head off, saying in English, “We trust you! Just don't run anyone over!”

*Lori Dabbagh*



We can't promise you an assignment as exciting as Lori's, but you, too, will have a memorable experience if you volunteer to drive international visitors.

## ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Sunday, September 10, 3–7 pm → **Welcome Picnic** at Greece Canal Park - Bring your new and returning international students to this fun event. If you aren't a Friendship Volunteer, come greet the students and meet other RIC members.

Friday, September 29, 7–10 pm → **Square Dance at the Barn** - Join international students in learning how to do-si-do and form a right-hand star. It's perfectly acceptable to just stand on the sidelines and watch!

Saturday, October 7 → **Bus ride and Hike** for students. The destination has not yet been selected.

Sunday, January 21 → **Winter Cabin Party** in the new Buckland Park Lodge in Brighton. Join students for a winter break in the beautiful new facility with easy access to I-590.



## INTERNATIONAL VISITOR LEADERSHIP PROGRAM



The International Visitor Leadership Program operates under authority of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (Fulbright-Hays Act). The emphasis of the program is to increase mutual understanding through communication at the personal and professional levels.

The International Visitor Leadership Program brings participants to the United States from all over the world each year to meet and confer with their professional counterparts and to experience the U.S. firsthand. The visitors, who are current or potential leaders in government, politics, the media, education, and other fields, are selected by American Officials overseas. More than 200 current and former Heads of State, 1,500 cabinet-level ministers, and many other distinguished world leaders in government and the private sector have participated in the International Visitor Leadership Program.



Rochester International Council  
229 Morey Hall  
University of Rochester  
Rochester, NY 14627

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Rochester, NY  
Permit No. 86

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

### *Interfaces*

**Publication of Rochester International Council, Inc.**

Phone: (585) 275-8779      fax: (585) 756-8086

[www.rifc.org](http://www.rifc.org)      [jw@rifc.org](mailto:jw@rifc.org)

Executive Director/Editor:      Judith Weinstein

Layout Editor:      Linda O'Connor

#### **What's Inside...**

**Page 1 Annual Awards Dinner**

**Page 2 International Visitors**

**Page 3 Award Winners**

**Page 3 President's Corner**

**Page 4 Newly Elected Board  
Members**

**Page 5 If Walls Could Talk**

**Page 5 Rochester Summit on  
Citizen Diplomacy**

**Page 6 Raffle – Silent Auction  
Contributors**

**Page 7 Ay ay ay que locura" Oh,  
What Madness**

**Page 7 Activities and Events**