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Rotary Club *of* Chicago

Making Business Leaders Community Leaders Since 1905

July 27 - Father Michael Pfleger

Rev. Dr. Michael Louis Pfleger received his B.A. in Theology from Loyola University, his Master of Divinity from the University of St. Mary of the Lake and an honorary Doctor of Divinity from North Park Theological Seminary. He has also completed post-graduate studies at Mundelein College and the Catholic Theological Union. Father Pfleger was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago on May 14, 1975. In 1981, at the age of 31, he became the youngest full pastor in the diocese when he was appointed Pastor of Saint Sabina Church. In 1981, Father Pfleger became the proud adoptive father of an eight-year-old son, Lamar. In 1992, he also became the adoptive father of Beronti. In 1997, he became a foster father to Jarvis Franklin, who was tragically killed as a result of gang crossfire, May 30, 1998. Since 1968, Father Pfleger has lived and ministered in the African-American community on both the west and south sides of Chicago. He spent two summers working in a Native American community in Oklahoma, and did his seminary internship as a Chaplain at Cook County Jail and at Precious Blood Catholic Church, both in Chicago. Father Pfleger has been recognized for his fight against alcohol and tobacco billboards, drugs and racism in People, Time, Ebony, Newsweek and Jet magazines; The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times, The Washington Post, U.S.A. Today, The Chicago Tribune, The Chicago Sun-Times, The Chicago Reader and numerous other papers and journals. He has also been profiled on the following television shows: "Day One" ABC; "60 Minutes" (CBS); BBC in Great Britain, the Larry King Show and Nightline.

In the course of his extensive and active ministry, Father Pfleger has been recognized for his commitment to equality and passionate stance against injustice. Some of the awards and honors he has received include: "Keeper of the Dream", Rainbow/Push; Distinguished Service Award, Nation of Islam; "Thurgood Marshall Award", National Black Prosecutors Association; "Monsignor Egan Social Justice Award", DePaul University.

As a minister, Father Pfleger has sought to break down the walls of racism and denominationalism by building unity among all people founded on truth and based on Jesus' command to love one another. This holy calling has led him to be parent, a preacher, a teacher, a lecturer and an activist. However, he believes his most important role is an errand boy for Jesus!

Upcoming Luncheon Programs

August 3 - Ed Burke, Chicago Alderman and Member of Rotary/One
August 10 - Congressman Mark Kirk, Republican Candidate for US Senate
August 17 - TBD
August 24 - Senator Bill Brady
August 31 - Alexi Giannoulias, Democrat for US Senate
September 7 - NBC 5, Carol Marin and Mary Ann Ahern
September 14 - TBD
September 21 - Richard Rodriguez, CEO, Chicago Transit Authority
September 28 - Toni Preckwinkle, Democratic candidate for Cook County President
October 5 - Roger Keats, Republican candidate for Cook County President
October 12 - Rotary Global History Fellowship - Anniversary Celebration
October 19 - Chris Kennedy

Gus Noble, Program Chair

Program: August 3 - Ed Burke, Chicago Alderman

Edward M. Burke, 66, the Dean of the Chicago City Council, has served as Alderman of Chicago's 14th Ward for more than four decades. A recognized expert on city budget matters, Alderman Burke is the Chairman of the City Council Committee on Finance.

As Chairman of the City Council's powerful Committee on Finance, Alderman Burke holds the city's purse strings and is responsible for all legislative matters pertaining to the city's finances, including municipal bonds, taxes and revenue matters. He also serves as a member of the Chicago Plan Commission.

Throughout his career in public life, Alderman Burke has been an avid student of Chicago history and is the co-author of three books, Inside the Wigwam: Chicago Presidential Conventions, 1860-1996; End of Watch: Chicago Police Killed in the Line of Duty, 1853-2006; and Glory & Government, Chicago's City Hall at 100.

Alderman Burke is a partner in the law firm of Klafter & Burke and is involved in many civic and charitable organizations, including the One Hundred Club of Cook County, the Knights of Columbus and the Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago.

Program: August 10 - Congressman Mark Kirk, Republican Candidate for US Senate and JOB1 Recognition

Mark Kirk represents the 10th Congressional District of Illinois located in the suburbs north of Chicago. Now in his fifth term, Congressman Kirk is s member of the powerful House Appropriations Committee and is co-chairman of the moderate GOP Tuesday Group and the bipartisan House US-China Working Group.

Congressman Kirk works to advance a Suburban Agenda that is pro-defense, pro-personal responsibility, pro-environment, and pro-science. He wrote a number of provisions which became law, including funding for commuter rail, improving veteran's health care, ensuring military voting, and boosting aviation security.

Kirk was born in Champaign and grew up in Chatham, Downers Grove and Kenilworth. Representative Kirk graduated from New Trier High School (Winnetka) and attended Blackburn College (Carlinville) and the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico before earning a B.A. from Cornell. He holds a Masters Degree from the London School of Economics and a law degree from Georgetown. Congressman Kirk began his career on the staff of his predecessor, Congressman John Porter. He later served in the World Bank, the State Department, the law firm of Baker & McKenzie, and the U.S. House International Relations Committee.

Kirk, who holds the rank of Commander, is a Naval Reserve intelligence officer and has served during conflicts with Afghanistan, Iraq, Haiti, and Bosnia. He recently became the first House member to serve in an imminent danger zone since 1942 when he deployed as a reservist to Afghanistan in December, 2008. He completed his second deployment to Afghanistan in January. Kirk was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal for his Kosovo service in 1999.

RGHF CHICAGO OCTOBER 10-12

BY DICK MCKAY- RGHF SECRETARY/TREASURER EMERITUS, Rotary Global History Fellowship

On 11 October 2000, Rotarian Jack Selway, Colorado, USA, conceived the idea of incorporating the histories of the first 50 Rotary Clubs on the internet. Since Rotary started in Chicago, I called him and offered the support of ROTARY/One in this effort. Within days, then DG 5470 Eddie Blender, Wichita #30 Club President Geri Appel, and New York #6 webmaster Matts Ingemanson joined our ranks. Shortly before the San Antonio Convention in June 2001, we decided to invite the officers of the first 50 clubs to a cocktail party, which we guaranteed. We were overwhelmed with the response and by the time we left the convention we had concluded we should preserve the first 100 clubs of the world. Today, we have histories of nearly 1,000 clubs, including more than half of the Rotary world's districts, and many other projects beyond the clubs.R/O Rotarian Angelo Loumbas provided the legal expertise which enabled us to successfully request Fellowship status from Rotary International. This was granted on 3 October 2003.

RGHF has a Board comprised of 56 members who represent 34 zones and zone sections. The board is convened online, monthly, over a three day period. There are currently 15 historians and 10 webmasters volunteering their time. RGHF has more than 600 dues paying members and is growing rapidly. ($30.00 per year) The website contains over 25,000 articles about the Global History of Rotary included in more than 4,000 pages on the internet. There are more than 100 separate projects underway at RGHF. This information is available free of charge to anyone accessing rghf.org.

The celebration of the 10th anniversary of RGHF will also be the launching pad for the first RGHF Institute. The purpose of the Institute is to find a handful of Rotarians who will dedicate their lives to history, so that thousands more might dedicate their lives to Rotary. The Board has approved the tentative following locations for the next 15 years.

2011 Munich; 2012 New Zealand; 2013 Texas; 2014 London; 2015 Denver/Aspen; 2016 Cyprus; 2017 Jerusalem; 2018 Wichita; 2019 Cairo; 2020 New York; 2021 Istanbul; 2022 Goa; 2023 Edinburgh; 2024 San Francisco; 2025 Pueblo. See the room where it all started, "Room 711," visit Paul Harris' office, grave, and home. Learn about the Chicago archives and visit the RI archives. Tour RI headquarters lunch with senior RI officials. Dinner at the Sears Tower (Willis), lunch with Chicago Rotarians; meet the grand daughter of Harry Ruggles the fifth Rotarian. Meet a Rotarian who knew many of the founders of Rotary. By Tuesday night, you'll be on your way to a life teaching Rotary's Global History.