

## 2005 Marion & Matty Penick Outstanding Community Service Award

*Name of Nominee: Gussie Jones*

*Name of Nominators: Michael J Zwick*

It is my sincere pleasure to nominate Gussie Jones for the Community Service Award for 2005. Although she is not a member of Rotary, she epitomizes all the qualities that we look for. Even though she is not a member of our club, she has played an active and vital role on our golf outing committee for the last several years. She has been and continues to be my "golf outing" mentor. She runs a highly successful golf outing for Homecroft and the MRDD Board each June, and I have learned a lot about setting up golf outings for profit!

If you've lived in Beavercreek any amount of time at all, you know who Gussie is. In her business life, she is the Public Education Specialist with the Greene County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities. She also chairs the Homecroft/MRDD Golf Outing, which year after year is highly successful and raises substantial amounts of money to support ongoing programs in those organizations. She has been my mentor in running golf outings, and I truly thank her for that.

Out of all the people we could recognize, I know of no one who does so much and wants no credit for it. In quoting Bill Mercurio, a past awardee, "Gussie never does anything for herself; it's always for the betterment of our community."

Gussie and her husband Don joined the Beavercreek Chamber of Commerce in 1980. They were the Chamber's Business Persons of the Year in 1990. Gussie was the founding President of the Chamber's Ambassador's Club. She was President of the Chamber in 1996. She recently chaired the Executive Search Committee for the Chamber's new Executive Director, when Sandy Watson announced her retirement.

Gussie's involvement with the community and community projects is extensive. She is a board member with Greenbucs, The Greene County Chapter of AMBUCS, and has been active on many committees, including the AMBUCS National Scholarship Committee. She is heavily involved with the American Heart Association for Green County, and works on the Heart Walk and the annual Daffodil sale. She is on the committee for the Uncommon Affair for the Family Violence Prevention Center. She is on the Miami Valley Very Special Arts Festival Committee. She was on the jury for the statewide art show for people with disabilities for Accessible Expressions Ohio. She is active in the Beavercreek Women's League, Fairborn Coordinating Council, South Western Ohio Parkinson's Foundation Golf Outing, The City of Beavercreek's 25th Anniversary Committee, Citizen's for Beavercreek Schools, and the County Public Relations Committee. She is also a Lector and a Eucharistic Minister at St Luke's Church!

Gussie is highly deserving of the Beavercreek Rotary Outstanding Community Service Award for 2005!