



Rotary Profile

Volume 70, No 24 January 4, 2017

LITTLETON ROTARY CLUB

Club #6418 ~ District #7850

Chartered July 1926

www.LittletonNHRotary.org

*Meets at 12:15 pm on Wednesdays at
the Topic of the Town Restaurant
25 Main Street, Littleton, NH 03561*

Officers 2016-2017

President	Bob Muh
President Elect	Chris Tyler
Vice President	Amanda Simino
Secretary	Richard Bielefield
Treasurer	Shannon McKee
Past President	Tina Lunderville

Directors

Kevin Low	Russ Gaitskill
Heather Porter	Chris Knapp
Ray Dionne	Joe Ransmeier

Sergeant-at-Arms Rusty Talbot

Rotary International President

John F. Germ Chattanooga, TN

7850 District Governor

Jay Polimeno
Jamie Milne, ADG

The Rotary Four-Way Test

*Is it the **truth**?*

*Is it **fair** to all concerned?*

*Will it build **goodwill** and **better**
friendships?*

*Will it be **beneficial** to all concerned?*

PROGRAMS

January 4th

Chad LaFlamme, Executive Director, Kismet
Rock Foundation

January 18th

Auction Kickoff

Visitors and Guests: Michael Jewell & Chad
Laflamme, Kismet Foundation

January Rotary Anniversaries:

Shannon McKee (2012), Tina Lunderville
(2012), Mike Claflin (2001), John Malm
(2014), Kevin Low (2013), Chris Knapp
(2009), Heather Porter (2012)

Member January Birthdays:

Chris Tyler (17th)

**Community Announcements, Brags/Senior
Moments & Happy Dollars:**

The Boys & Girls Club of the North
Country will be holding its 5th Annual Casino
Night on January 25 from 6 to 10 pm. The
fund raising festivities include dinner,
prizes, music, dancing, and a cash bar.

Proudly serving Bethlehem, Carroll, Dalton,
Easton, Franconia, Landaff, Lisbon, Littleton,
Lyman, Monroe, Sugar Hill and Whitefield.

Heather noted that they are a few opening for volunteer Blackjack dealers.



Russ congratulated **Chad** on his recent nuptials and **Heather** on the success of the Santa Phone and party at B&GC of the North Country.

Rotary Business

Kathy asked everyone to save the dates of the 2017 District Conference being held on June 2nd - 4th. More information will be forthcoming, but the organization of the event will feature many a la carte attendance choices to better fit personal schedules. The sponsoring Lincoln/Woodstock Club is looking for help with duties ranging from registration desk to escorting guest speakers. Stay tuned for further details.



It is not too soon to think about how you are going to contribute to the success of this year's **SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION**. Start by returning **Russ'** phone calls and those of other committee chairs even if you are going to say no.

Joseph Garrison of Franconia has been proposed as a member in the classification Law by Chad Stearns. Members have seven (7) days in which to object in writing to the Secretary.



RECENT PROGRAMS

"Classification" Talk - Cindy Sparks



On December 21, Cindy, who joined the Littleton Rotary Club in April 2016, gave a brief presentation about her background, family and employment at Coldwell Banker Linwood Real Estate.

A native of Littleton, Cindy has lived in the area for most of her life, apart from brief residency in Virginia. Cindy and her husband, Chris, have two daughters: Tianna is a sophomore at Plymouth State University and Alexis is in the 10th grade at Littleton High School. Chris, a master plumber, recently set up his own business, Chris Sparks Plumbing & Heating LLC.

Cindy became interested in the real estate field through her association with Coldwell Banker in Virginia in relation to her family's real estate needs. She liked the fact that Coldwell Banker was a known quantity with a national reputation. Upon returning to Littleton, she began working for Coldwell Banker Linwood Real Estate, where she has been for the past five years, and obtained her real estate salesperson's license. She and Arlie Vandebroek, who joined us for lunch as well, comprise "The Synergy Real Estate Team" with "twice the selling power". They have found the team approach to be very beneficial, for reasons ranging from multiple perspectives on preparing a listing to affording clients greater flexibility, accessibility and responsiveness. Having a backup system also reduces a bit of the stress associated with a very demanding profession.

"Kismet Rock Foundation" - Chad Laflamme and Mike Jewell



Rusty Talbot introduced Mike Jewell, founder, and Chad Laflamme, current Executive Director, of the Kismet Rock Foundation, based in North Conway, New Hampshire.

Mike Jewell founded Kismet Rock in 2000 as a means of shoring up economically, culturally and social disadvantaged youth and helping them to realize their full potential beginning at an age (12-13) where they were vulnerable to deterioration and collapse or, to borrow Mike's words, "on the verge of breaking their contract with society". The principal mechanism by which Kismet Rock does this is to offer scholarships for instruction in technical rock climbing for a week each summer over a four-year period. The primary sites are Cathedral Ledge on West Side Road in North Conway and Whitehorse Ledge. Throughout the year, the staff continues to maintain contact with, mentor and support the students, to include assisting them with school supplies and clothing. There are 65-75 students in the program at any one time, a multicultural mix fairly evenly split between boys and girls, coming primarily from 7 sending schools in New Hampshire, Maine and Massachusetts.

The Kismet Community Leadership Project provides outreach to the students' communities.

The Kismet model rests on three pillars: 1) The Children [They] Serve: 2) Education in Technical Rock Climbing ("Technical climbing requires the application of nearly all aspects of our being. Thus it is unique in providing a depth of joy and a broad nourishment of one's potential."); and 3) A Family-Like Atmosphere.

The students are carefully screened and each one is interviewed to permit the staff to assess whether the students meet the program criteria and whether the program can offer the individual student significant change. The initial post-arrival protocol involves low-key game playing, equipment distribution and the negotiation of a full value group contract to serve as a framework for the week's training. The intensive program progresses from climbing basics on an 80' slope to increasingly difficult climbs on Cathedral Ledge (400') and Whitehorse Ledge (600') and also incorporates gym climbing. An "evening circle" affords an opportunity for socialization and feedback, and the students enjoy swimming and a barbecue hosted by a Kismet Rock board member.

Mike and Chad also shared success stories about Kismet Rock alumni who had gone on to outstanding achievements both academically and professionally. Three alumni currently serve on the Kismet Rock board.

The Kismet Rock program regularly receives feedback and endorsements from its students: "I didn't exist before....and now I love my life." "(Before Kismet) I had

never had anyone in my life who I know believed in me unconditionally." "For the first time in my life I felt special."

The Kismet Rock Foundation is anxious to expand its student capacity and potentially to operate an additional site. The foundation does receive some grant funding, but relies heavily on financial support from organizations and individual donors. Contact information is as follows: (website) www.kismetrockfoundation.org ; email director@kismetrockfoundation.org; Address: P.O. Box 1744, Conway, NH 03860; telephone (603) 730-2715.