



THE ROTARY CLUB OF MONTICELLO, NEW YORK

Officers: Joseph D'Abbraccio (President), John Greenbaum (1st VP), Les Kristt (2nd VP), Orshii Boldiis (Secretary), Fouad Kerendian (Treasurer)

BOD 2014-2016: Helen Diehl, Richard Stein, Bob Ernst, Fouad Kerendian, Jill Greenbaum, Lori Orestano-James

BOD 2015-2017: Jacob Lerner, Randy Katz, Barbara Carr, Pam Sussman, Janet Kaplan

THE March 1, 2016 MEETING:

President Joe called the meeting to order and asked John Greenbaum to lead the pledge and Orshii Boldiis to lead the 4-way test. Joe then introduced our special guests, the Honorable Judge Frank Labuda and David Chavkin. Judge Labuda was invited by Les Kristt and David Chavkin was the guest of John Greenbaum.

Birthdays and Anniversaries were announced. Jacob Lerner celebrates his birthday on March 8th, Rick Stein on March 10th, Gary Tugender on March 17th, Bruce Reynolds on March 23rd, and Gene Kelly on March 31st. Rick and Marilyn Stein celebrate their anniversary on March 23rd.



(R-L) Les Kristt, Pres. Joe, and the Honorable Judge Labuda.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS:

- Youth Exchange Chairperson Helen Deihl gave a status report on preparations for the weekend. She outlined the weekend itinerary for the Youth Exchange and InterAct students: Friday evening at Skaters World, Saturday at the YMCA in Rock Hill, Saturday evening party at the home of Randy and Eileen Katz, and the Sunday morning brunch at River Edge.
- Barbara Carr gave a report on the Region 5 meeting held on February 18th at Tony Boffa's in Middletown.
- President Joe asked for a member to step up to accept the position of Vice President.
- Rotary celebrated it's 111th birthday on February 23rd.
- The District Conference will be held May 13-15 at the Best Western in Kingston, N.Y. It is a wonderful event for members and the incoming president to attend.
- The Annual Competition Blood Drive, will be held on March 30th from 1:30 PM to 7:00 PM at Monticello Firehouse. Chairperson Pam Sussman has asked that Rotarians bring baked goods and refreshments. Please stop by to show support.
- The Boys & Girls Club Dinner at the Villa Roma, Friday, March 4th.

THE HONORABLE JUDGE FRANK LABUDA

Our guest speaker for the evening, The Honorable Judge Frank Labuda, began his presentation on "The

Rule of Law” program by explaining that it was established as an adjunct by the state department to send him and others like our guest, professor David Chavkin, overseas to foreign countries to teach people how our Laws and Courts work instead of sending military battalians of young men and women as was done in the past.

He gave a brief history of how rule of law started over 1200 years ago with the crafting of the “Magna Carta” that established “Terra Lexus” (which roughly translates to “Rule of Law Over the Earth”). For the first time in western civilization, some of the power was taken from the King and given to the rule of men (barons and other nobility).

Our government is subject to the rule of law. Judge Labuda explained that if a person commits a crime, it is a jury that decides whether that person is innocent or guilty, it's not the police, or the courts, or the prosecutors, or the judge. This is a concept that is still foreign to most of the world. Our rule of law has gone unbroken for over 300 years. Although people are arrested by the police in other countries, what happens after that is grossly different country. We have a judicial system where a person is brought before a jury of randomly selected people first to see if there should even be a trial (the indictment process) and then another jury if there is to be a trial.



Judge Frank Labuda giving his presentation on the Rule of Law Program.

Using a projector with a Powerpoint® presentation Judge Labuda showed images of the many countries he's visited lecturing to judges and law students on how our judicial system works. Judge Labuda lectured in many third world countries in western African (Benin and Ghana) and Eastern European. It was interesting to see how many young people in foreign countries are training to be lawyers.

Judge Labuda answered many questions from the members and it made his presentation both interesting and informative.

HAPPY DOLLARS: There were lots of happy dollars for Judge Labuda's presentation, for the great job Helen Diehl is doing with the Youth Exchange weekend, for the incredible job Lori Orestano-James and Janet Kaplan are doing as they prepare for the Boys and Girls Clubs Dinner, and for Bill Tochterman being back at the meeting.

Barbar Carr won this week's 50/50

Attendance:

Orshii Boldiis, Barbara Carr, Joe D'Abbraccio, Helen Diehl, Jill Greenbaum, John Greenbaum, Janet Kaplan, Randy Katz, Gene Kelly, Fouad Kerendian, Les Kristt, Jacob Lerner, Marty Miller, Doug Muller, Alex Rey, Bill Tochterman, Gary Tugender, & Bejan.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 8th - Duke Devlin will share with us his unique past and some critical components to the history of Sullivan County.

Mar 15th – TFAC – Tobacco Free Action Communities

Mar 15th – Julie Dreher – SC Adult Care Center

Mar 30th – The Annual Competition Blood Drive

May 13-15 - The Rotary District Conference

“Always” remember to Invite a Friend

We need to increase our membership, so please take the time to invite a friend or associate to one of our meetings.

Don't forget to practice the 4-way Test!

THE FOUR-WAY TEST:

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Check out our club website www.monticellonyrotary.org for the latest in club happenings.

Rotary District 7210 information can be found at www.rotarydistrict7210.org To learn more about Rotary International, go to www.rotary.org.

The Montigram welcomes new ideas, photographs, and suggestions as well as member stories and articles about the history of our club.

The Montigram and photos respectfully submitted by Orshii Boldiis