



**Rotary Club of Pearl River, P.O. Box 824, Pearl River, NY 10965**

District 7210 - Region 8 - Zone 32 - Club #4982 - Charter Date December 12, 1935

[www.rotaryclubofpearlriver.org](http://www.rotaryclubofpearlriver.org)

*Rotary Serving Humanity*

Larry Vergine, President 2016-17

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*The Four Way Test*  
*Is it the truth?  
Is it fair to all  
concerned?  
Will it build good will  
and better friendship?  
Will it be beneficial to  
all concerned?*

## Rotary Meeting of Sept 15, 2016

Pledge- Bob Simon

Invocation- Don Brenner- "In this week of September 11<sup>th</sup>, we remember and honor those whose lives were needlessly taken from us, those who unselfishly sacrificed themselves for others, and those who bravely protect us and defend us, individually and as a nation, so that we can preserve our freedoms, and our way of life. As Rotarians, every day we try to commit ourselves to the service of others and with God's help maintain a better life for all. May we appreciate all that we have and continue to serve our community". Nice job Don.

Guests- Our speaker Andy Stewart, Supervisor- Town of Orangetown, guest of Bob Bergman.

Birthdays- Bunnee Webb, Jennifer Flynn, Peg Murphy

Anniversaries- Bob and Jennifer Zuppe, Jim and Peg Murphy. Bob was on hand to lead us in the Happy Anniversary song with

such talent and skill that he may give up sports and insurance for a career in song and dance.

#### Announcements-

Sept 25<sup>th</sup>- Congers/Valley Cottage Rotary Italian Feast Fundraiser.

Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> is Pearl River Day. Instead of an information booth we will have, for the first time ever, what President Larry terms a "Vegas Thing". While a bit vague it appears to



be a game of chance that raises money for the club. To shouts of "is that legit?" Larry explained " it will be all over before we get any grief". There will be no complaints from El Salvador when we return to bring more families clean water with the proceeds from PR Day's moneymaker.

Oct 6<sup>th</sup> - Ray Pucci will be collecting for the Dominican College Rotaract Midnight Run in the parking lot before the club meeting. Ray sent a list but some items are clothing, bedding, toiletries, and cash (to purchase more).

Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> - Regional Assembly of Rockland Rotary Clubs, Thursday, noon at Prohibition River in Nyack. We may be cancelling our own regular club meeting and head to Nyack that day.

President Larry attended the Rotary President's meeting with Ryan O'Gorman at Clarksville Inn and thanked us for not embarrassing him. In fact, we were one of only four clubs who has their international dues paid up to date and reports turned in.

Happy Bucks brought to us by Ray Coyle-

Speaker Andy Stewart was celebrating the anniversary of his first date with the future



Mrs. Andy Stewart, exactly 30 years ago on 9-15-1986. Andy attended his first Rotary event in 2002 with our own Jeffrey Keahon. Jim Shepard won this week's Monday night football pool fundraiser. We will have a new winner every week for the next 19 weeks. Lenny reports the Rockland Boulders have made it to the playoffs and are competing this weekend for the championship. Lenny has some free tickets so give him a call if you'd like to attend a game. Frank Ripakudos to Suffern's 12 yr old Grace Vanderwaal for winning American's Got Talent. Grace plans to donate her \$1 million

prize to charity with a little left over for a treehouse! Past PR Rotarian John Corr will be joining us at the Ed Bouton Scholarship Golf outing. Many remember John's generosity and donation of a school bus for the Dominican Republic years ago. Doug Ward was

surprised with a \$5,000 check for Autism Speaks from a long-time business friend. Doug is in training to represent the group at the NYC Marathon. Frank Neeson's hat covers where the doctors searched for his memory bank. Sadly Jonathan Bellush lost his mom last week but was both heartened and surprised when flowers from the Club showed up just hours later for her funeral. Kathy Fidlow put in get well bucks for her friend's mom's open heart surgery. Don thanked Eddie the Fish for diving into his pool to remove a live frog and dead chipmunk. Fearless Eddie! Dorothy is happy that classes have started and Dominican College is in full swing. Mike Seidenfrau (secretary, vice-president, take your pick) set a record with raising \$14,000 in this year's race to benefit the Center for Safety and Change. Mike is determined to break that record again next year. Andy is back to the routine he loves driving both kindergarteners and freshmen to school. Ray Coyle spent the past week ferrying kids to college and working hard to pay those tuitions.



Program- Orangetown Andy Stewart once again treated the club to a visit and update on interesting things going on in town, this time the fate of the Rockland Psychiatric (RPC) property. Some points:



350 acres total

216 acres set off for community recreation.

Area #6 (see map) may become one of the largest movie sets in the country. The deal needs to be made by the end of September but it calls for using the old existing buildings as the perimeter and enclosing the entire center. This would be great as tearing down and remediating these buildings would be costly.



Andy said they are amazingly in pretty good shape considering no heat or maintenance for ten years.

Area #1 Private recreation

Area #9 Former Children's Psych Center. Now site of filming for "Orange is the New Black". Still owned by the State.

The RPC property was originally purchased for \$8 million, the money bonded. There is hope the State will provide remediation funding from the Brownfields program.

Thanks for a great program Andy and to Bob Bergman for bringing him!

Four Way Test- George Westphal

Bulletin- Mark G

