

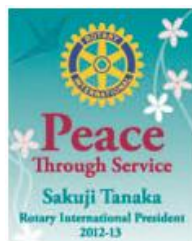


# Canaltown Crier

## Rotary Club of Palmyra-Macedon



Wed Feb 27, 2013

[Home](#)**Club President:**

Dianne Sloan

**Asst District Governor:**

Tim King

**District Governor:**

Gaven Hurley

**Rotary International President:**

Sakuji Tanaka

**Club Events**

**Daytime meeting: American Legion Palmyra**  
Mar 06, 2013 12:05 PM

**Nighttime meeting: American Legion Palmyra**  
Mar 13, 2013 06:00 PM

**Board Meeting**  
Mar 21, 2013 06:30 PM

**Joint Rotary/Lions dinner**  
Apr 16, 2013 06:00 PM

**April Board Meeting**  
Apr 18, 2013 06:30 PM

**May Board Meeting**  
May 16, 2013 06:30 PM

**June Board Meeting**  
Jun 13, 2013 06:30 PM

**Website Sponsors****Stories****Jeremy Bricks - Pal-Mac Schools Transportation Dep't**

Posted by Tom Breen

"The wheels on the bus go 'round and 'round," the song tells us. But there is no such thing as a "magic" school bus; it takes a whole transportation department to keep those wheels going. Today, it was our honor to welcome Jeremy Bricks, head of the transportation dep't for the Palmyra-Macedon Central School District. Mr. Bricks oversees all the drivers and maintenance people, and coordinates with the government agencies which regulate school bus operations.

There are three main agencies to deal with: the state Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), the state Education Department and the US Department of Transportation (USDOT). Each has its own set of regulations, which sometimes overlap with the others. The DMV deals with licensing the drivers; the Education Dep't supervises training of all employees; and USDOT deals with the safety of the vehicles.

The Department of Motor Vehicles requires that all drivers and monitors be fingerprinted. Fingerprints are run every day, looking for flags that prevent a driver from operating a bus. If such a flag were to be found, Mr. Bricks would get a message telling him what was found. Additionally, drivers must report within 5 days any tickets received while operating their own vehicles, or face suspension. Drivers have an annual record review and a physical. DMV requires a written exam and road test to obtain the CDL. These must be repeated every 2 years.

The USDOT handles vehicle inspections and investigates any accidents involving the buses. After any inspection, USDOT can remove a vehicle from service. The agency also oversees the random drug/alcohol testing for the department.

The State Education department sets out the training requirements for all employees. These include a 3-hour pre-service instruction. This program helps prepare drivers and monitors to deal with situations that could come up during a run. Additionally, there is a 30-hour Basic Course of Instruction, required of all potential drivers; and an Advanced Course of Instruction, which includes a refresher of the basic course. The Education Dep't also requires a physical performance test for drivers and monitors, and fire safety and evacuation drills for students.

To become a bus driver, one must be at least 21 years old. There is no maximum age for drivers, as long as he or she can pass the physical performance test and maintain their CDL. The Pal-Mac School District currently has 49 licensed drivers, some of which are dep't staff. The department has 3 in-house mechanics, who are responsible for the maintenance and inspection of 49 vehicles. The district's vehicles will travel a total of 622,000 miles in an average school year.

We'd like to thank Mr. Bricks for his entertaining and informative presentation. Many of us may take for granted that a bus will show up in the morning to take our kids away, and then re-appear later to bring them home. Now we have a better understanding of what goes on behind the scenes, and perhaps a better appreciation of the effort it takes to efficiently transport our children in safety.



Robert L. Yost  
Funeral Home, Inc



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### February 13, 2013 - Meeting Minutes

Posted by Tom Breen

#### Guests:

Potential Member Tom Brighton, Speaker Jeremy Bricks, Mila.

#### Missing in Action:

Gene Bassage, Eric Chapman, Mark Clement, John Denniston, Chase Ellsworth, Cheryl Ford, Gary Haigh, Gary Hopkins, Jeff Johncox, Debbie LeMoyne, Anne Morrell, Peter Park, Dave Read, Bob Yost.

#### Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers this week:

Arnie's mother-in-law – had a heart attack;  
Bob Daly's sister, who is very sick;  
Bob Campbell passed away.

#### Birthdays/Anniversaries:

Bob Ike's daughter turned 2 on the 11th.

#### Singing:

"Let Me Call You Sweetheart", with special second verse by Jim Bush, "I Can't Wait Till Wednesday ('cause It's Rotary)."

#### Fines, Happy Bucks, Confessions:

- Cindy offered a couple bucks because she was happy to be here with us again after a while, and for another grandchild on the way.
- Arnie was happy to hear that Cortney is thinking of naming the baby Arnold. How seriously she is thinking about it did not come up.
- Bob Sloan had fun taking Rory ice fishing. Rory caught his first Northern Pike.

#### Notes and Updates for the Club:

Our regular club meeting on March 13 will be an evening meeting at the American Legion in Palmyra. A sign-up sheet was passed around at today's meeting, and will be available at the next meeting, so that we can make a more accurate estimate for the dinner count. This is part of an effort to attract new members by having one evening event each month. If you know someone who might be interested in meeting us, please invite them along.

The Sodus Rotary Club would like you to know about an upcoming fundraiser concert featuring Russell Moore and Illrd Tyme Out. The Bluegrass performers appear at the Sodus Central School Auditorium March 23. Tickets are \$20 and available at the Sodus Rotary website: <http://www.sodusrotary.org/events/>

Our annual joint Lions/Rotary meeting will take place on April 16. Details to follow – watch this space!

The District Assembly is scheduled for April 13 at the Red Jacket High School in Shortsville. There is no charge for any member of our club to attend this informative event. We will start sign-ups at the club assembly on the 27th.

The GSE Team from Sweden and Latvia will be with us March 23 – March 26. The team is made up of 3 women and 2 men. Pat is still looking for someone to host; please contact her if you can help.

Dave Pray won \$10 in the 50/50 drawing.

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Next meeting: Club Assembly - Noon, February 27 at Parkwood Heights in Macedon.

