

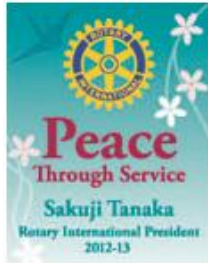


Canaltown Crier

Rotary Club of Palmyra-Macedon



Wed Apr 17, 2013

[Home](#)

Club President:
Dianne Sloan

Asst District Governor:
Tim King

District Governor:
Gaven Hurley

**Rotary International
President:**
Sakuji Tanaka

Club Events

No meeting
Apr 17, 2013

April Board Meeting
Apr 18, 2013 06:30 PM

Daytime meeting
Parkwood Heights Macedon
Apr 24, 2013 12:05 PM

May Board Meeting
May 16, 2013 06:30 PM

No meeting
May 22, 2013

Nighttime meeting: GSE team
Palmyra American Legion
May 23, 2013 06:00 AM

June Board Meeting
Jun 13, 2013 06:30 PM

Changeover Picnic (nighttime)
Gravino Park Macedon
Jun 26, 2013 05:30 PM

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[Patriot Guard Riders of New York](#)

Posted by Tom Breen on Apr 03, 2013

Our very own Bob Yost presented our program today, about the Patriot Guard Riders of New York. Bob showed a brief video explaining how and why the Patriot Guard Riders was formed, and gave us an update on the group.

The Patriot Guard Riders was originally formed in 2003 in response to the activities of a controversial church in Kansas whose members picket military funerals. They believe that God is killing American soldiers as a punishment for our country's acceptance of gays. While they have the right to that belief and to its expression, the Riders wanted to shield service members' families from the protestors. Upon invitation from the family, Patriot Guard Riders provide escort for the funeral procession and stand between the funeral and the protestors.



Rotarian Bob Yost answers a question about the Patriot Guard after his video presentation.

In 2011, the US Supreme Court upheld the First Amendment right of the church members to picket funerals (*Snyder v. Phelps*). This prompted many municipalities to enact ordinances establishing limits on the time, place, and manner such free speech could be exercised. Protests would be allowed, but not within a certain distance, or only a set time before or after the funeral. Thus, the need for the riders to act as a shield has diminished; they now serve more as an honor guard.

The Patriot Guard Riders have since expanded their mission. They now attend veterans' dedications and welcome-home ceremonies for returning service members. The local group welcomes home all returning Honor Flight veterans. When the travelling Vietnam Memorial Wall came through NY, the Riders served as escort. Under their Help on the Homefront program, volunteers provide support to veterans, families of deployed service members, and Gold Star families. The group also attempts to locate, identify and inter the unclaimed cremated remains of veterans.

Currently 258,000 riders strong nationally, the group is made up of all walks of life: doctors, attorneys, funeral directors, law enforcement, and on and on. The group is divided into regions; there are nine regions in New York State. In 2012, the local region (2) performed 476 funeral actions, including 34 funerals for service members killed in action. That number also includes services for police and firefighters.



Robert L. Yost
Funeral Home, Inc



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More information about the Patriot Guard Riders of New York can be found at their website, www.pgny.org. If you missed Bob's video, or would like to see it again, it is available on YouTube. Thank you, Bob, for an informative program about a valuable organization.

April 3, 2013 - Meeting Minutes

Posted by Tom Breen on Apr 03, 2013

Guests:

Lucille Hamlin, Autumn Sloan, Rory Sloan, Evan Cooper, Prospective Members Eric VanZeilen and Wayne Brophy.

Missing in Action:

Gene Bassage, Tom Brighton, Kim Clement, Mark Clement, John Denniston, Chase Ellsworth, Cheryl Ford, Gary Haigh, Robert Ike, Jeff Johncox, Debbie LeMoyné, Anne Morrell, Peter Park, Dave Read, Cindy Surline, Bob Yost.

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

Leslie's sister-in-law has been diagnosed with cancer.

Bob Sloan's dad is home from the hospital.

Gerry Hall passed away.

Birthdays/Anniversaries:

Dick Kirchoff's birthday was today – four score and seven;

Dave Pray

Fines, Happy Bucks, Confessions:

- Nancy had a happy buck for time spent with her 4 year old grandson in Wisconsin.
- Vicky also spent time with her grandson.
- Bob Yost spent the weekend in Philadelphia with his daughter, Heather and was able to see her dance in "her first paying gig."
- Bob Sloan happy-bucked for SU being in the Final Four.
- Leslie had a great birthday thanks to her family.
- Dick Kirchoff welcomed a great-grandson.
- Rory and Autumn split a happy buck – Rory "for giving a happy buck," and Autumn for Spring Break.

Notes and Updates for the Club:

The joint Rotary/Lions dinner is April 16 at the Alling Coverlet Museum in Palmyra.

District Assembly is Saturday, April 13 at Red Jacket High School.

There will be an electronics recycling event Saturday, May 4 at the Palmyra Fire Hall, from 9am – 1pm. Contact Tom Breen for info on what will be accepted.

The Board of Directors has received and approved membership applications from Eric VanZeilen and Wayne Brophy. If you have any comments or concerns regarding their admission to our club, please contact a board member.



Lucille

Hamlin of the Macedon Food Pantry was on hand to receive our club's donation of \$750.

Arnie Pechler won \$12 in the 50/50 drawing.

Next meeting: Noon, April 10 – American Legion in Palmyra