



Canaltown Crier

Rotary Club of Palmyra-Macedon



Tue Aug 27, 2013

[Home](#)

Club President:
Pam Dean

Asst District Governor:
Tim King

District Governor:
Ellen Hughes

**Rotary International
President:**
Ron Burton

Club Events

BOD meeting at Palmyra Town Hall
Sep 12, 2013 06:30 PM

BOD meeting at Palmyra Town Hall
Oct 10, 2013 06:30 PM

BOD meeting at Palmyra Town Hall
Nov 14, 2013 06:30 PM

BOD meeting at Palmyra Town Hall
Dec 12, 2013 06:30 PM

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Stories

15 Minutes on the Erie Canal

Posted by Tom Breen on Aug 21, 2013

Dick Kirchhoff proudly introduced today's guest speaker, Doug Wilson, here to speak to us about the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, or ECNHC. Doug's first contact with the ECNHC occurred while he was involved in the Lock 60 preservation project in Macedon. The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor is one of 49 National Heritage Areas in the US. These areas are designated by Congress and are intended to encourage historic preservation of the area and an appreciation of the history and heritage of the site.

Doug shared some history of the Erie Canal. Begun in 1817 and completed in 1825, the 360 mile-long canal was 40 feet wide and 4 feet deep. This marvel of engineering connected the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean and helped spur the growth of the United States. In 1820, the population of Palmyra was 3,124; that of Rochester was about 1,500. Our local area was literally the western edge of civilization. The canal changed that.



Dick Kirchhoff (r) introduced today's guest, Doug Wilson.

In 1834 work began on improvements to the canal, which had long since exceeded its expected usage. The canal was widened to 70 feet and deepened to 7 feet. Some locks were widened; others rebuilt in new locations, and many new aqueducts were constructed. Finished in 1862, this enlargement resulted in what we call the Old Erie Canal or the Enlarged Erie Canal.

The canal dramatically lowered the cost of shipping between the Mid-west and the Northeast. Manufactured goods from the East were shipped out West, and food costs for the Eastern cities were much lower. In addition to goods, the canal helped expand the flow of people and ideas in the 19th century. Many immigrants arrived in New York City and eventually spread across New York and to the West. With them, they brought their different perspectives and cultural ideals.

In 1918 the Canal was replaced by the larger NY State Barge Canal. New technologies allowed the canal system to utilize existing rivers. Where that wasn't possible, such as our area, the canal was enlarged to 120 feet wide and 12 feet deep. That project ultimately did not prevent the canal's becoming obsolete for commercial shipping. Since the 1990s, the Canal has been primarily used by recreational traffic. You can still travel by boat from Albany to Buffalo.

The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor was established by Congress in 2000. It includes the Erie, Cayuga-Seneca, Oswego, and Champlain Canals. It encompasses more than 4800 square miles in 23 counties. Land within the ECNHC is not owned or managed by the federal government. Instead, a conglomeration of people, businesses, historical and environmental organizations work together, along with towns, cities, counties, and the State in order to protect and preserve the corridor. For more information about the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, please visit their website: www.eriecanalway.org

August 21, 2013 - Meeting Minutes

Posted by Tom Breen on Aug 21, 2013

Guests:

Shirley Bassage, Mickey Kirchhoff, Bob Daly, Marie Cramer, Autumn Sloan, Rory Sloan, Doug Wilson.

Missing in Action:

Wayne Brophy, Margaret Brooks, John Denniston, Chase Ellsworth, Jeff Johncox, Debbie LeMoyne, Peter Park, Arnie Pechler, Eric VanZeilen, Leslie Vecchiotti.

Singing:

The Rotary Singers performed "The Fair Booth Song," to the tune of "Love Me Tender" (Or "Aura Lee" if you prefer), with lyrics by Jim Bush.



The Rotary Singers are (l-r): Bob Ike, Wynnette Searle, Nancy Schrader, Jim Bush, and Bob Sloan.

Birthdays / Anniversaries:

Anne and Dave Morrell celebrated 33 years on 8/16;
Bob Ike's daughter Grace turned 21 on 8/17.

Fines, Happy Bucks, Confessions:

- Cindy was happy to be attending her first meeting of this Rotary year. Also, she and her family took a vacation to Virginia Beach, which included a visit to Emergency when Evan sliced his knee. No baby news to report at this time though.
- Vicky had a happy buck for Bob's (hopefully) last visit to the eye doctor, and for the Canal

Corp tug traveling through Palmyra and Macedon on an inspection cruise.

- Bob Sloan reports the annual Youth Football and Cheer Charity Bowl was quite a success; Camp Onseyawa is the beneficiary of this fundraiser again this year. Also, youth football season is in full swing and everyone is enjoying that. Finally, a happy buck for Dianne helping out by offering to mow the lawn; only glitch was that she filled the tank with kerosene. Oops.
- Gene is happy to say the Yankees beat the Red Sox, then the Blue Jays, and continue to do well.
- Kim offered a happy buck in honor of the Fair being over; everyone seemed to have a great time and we had a good year. She also confessed that she had her auction item all ready and took it with her to Parkwood today, then realized the auction and Parkwood meeting are next Wednesday.
- Eric Chapman was sorry to have missed all the fun at the fair, but he and the family were on vacation.
- Bob Yost had a “haaa-aaa-aaa-ppy” buck for Kim’s third place finish in the Fair’s Celebrity Goat-Milking competition.
- Marie gave a buck for the 3rd 4th and 5th classes from Pal-Mac Intermediate School, who created informational signs for the Butterfly Trail in Macedon. The signs provide facts about the various butterflies. In addition, the students in these grades will maintain flower beds around the signs.
- Dianne and Rory took part in the Jolly Roger 5k during Pirates weekend. Rory finished in 25:38 and Dianne is rightfully proud of him. More happy bucks for a family trip to Niagara Falls followed by a Bills game, and for a visit to the Fair Booth by the Morgan twins of television’s “The Voice.”
- Anne happy-buck for a trip to Seneca Lake, and for the pending arrival of our new inbound exchange student, Szabi, from Hungary.
- Bob Yost pitched in another buck for his son Nate, who won his division and finished 6th overall in the 5k.
- Gary Hopkins was happy that his son’s team won the Bed Race, and had another dollar in honor of wife Terri’s pie taking 2 nd place at the Fair.

Notes and Updates for the Club:

- The District 7120 Golf Tournament is being held on Friday Sept. 13th at the Lima Country Club, shotgun start at 1 PM. Any Club sending at least 4 golfers will have a chance to win a Paul Harris Fellow award from District Gov. Ellen Hughes. To qualify, the 4 golfers can be a family member, a friend of your Club and even a potential Rotarian. **Cost is \$75 per golfer if paid by September 1. After that, it is \$80.** To download the registration form, please [click here](#).

- Our annual Canaltown Days drawing is fast approaching. Sign-up sheets are being passed for people to be at the booth Canaltown Days weekend, 9/14 and 9/15. In addition, we are looking for a few people to sell tickets at Breen’s the two weekends prior to Canaltown Days. Tickets are being distributed to Rotarians to sell. If you need tickets or wish to help out at the booth or at Breen’s please contact Nancy Schrader, Deb LeMoyné, Cheryl Ford, or Tom Breen.

Mickey Kirchhoff won the 50/50 this week; she donated her winnings to Polio Plus.

Next Meeting: Club Assembly – Noon Wednesday, August 28 – Parkwood Heights in Macedon

