

President: Wendy Winnett
President Elect: Jan Harvey
Vice President: Paula Smith
Secretary: Ernie Danforth
Treasurer: Wendy Daines
Past President: Ted Goldwyn
District Governor: Mike Slovak

December 27, 2018
Corning Radisson
Vol. 90 No. 26

12:10 p.m.
101 Members

NEXT WEEK

Jan 3, 2019 **Melanie Anastasio**
What have I been doing since my last Rotary presentation?

IN THE WINGS

Jan 7, 2019 **District Governors-Elect**
Dinner Meeting 5:30 PM Radisson
Everyone is invited to meet these DGE's and hear what their clubs are doing

Jan 10, 2019 **No Lunch Meeting**

Jan 17, 2019 **Anne Leinin**
Crystal Chords -- they do more than just sing!

Jan 24, 2019 **Melissa Nichols Mahany**
Child Welfare Services - Therapeutic Foster Care with Kinship Family and Youth

Jan 31, 2019 **Groundhog Day Dinner**

THIS WEEK'S CLUB SERVICE

Greeter: Rich Fastiggi
Photographer: Rick Davis
Invocation: Deacon Ray
Music Provided by: Jim Hudson
COGS: Ernie Danforth

THIS WEEK

The Corning Rotary Club gathered for its usual lunch meeting on the final Thursday of 2018. **Jim Hudson** greeted the members and guests with tunes at the piano as everyone gathered for lunch.

Following the singing of My Country 'Tis of Thee and the Invocation delivered by **Ray Defenforf, Ted Marks** voiced displeasure with the fact that the Rotary emblem was missing from the bell. The fact that it had been missing for years appeared to be irrelevant.

GUESTS AND VISITING ROTARIANS

Following lunch **President Wendy** called on **Rich Fastiggi** to introduce our guests. First up was **Peter Winnett** who introduced his guest Jan Kostalansky, whose late husband, John, was a former mayor of Corning.



Gil Sweet introduced his granddaughter Emily Austin.



Dick Pope introduced former member Jenny Ruland who in turn introduced the rest of the Ruland family.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Wendy announced that the social scheduled at the Winnett's for Sunday Jan 6th to honor the District Governors-elect has been canceled. However, there will be a dinner meeting on Monday, Jan 7th at 5:30 at the Radisson. Pay for the dinner at the

registration desk as usual. Please bring a guest.

Tom O'Brien announced that the luncheon scheduled for Sunday the 6th at Josh Rosenbloom's restaurant in Hammondsport is still on. Letting Tom know you are coming would be helpful, but not a requirement.



Paul Tick announced that his first novel has been published and is available at Barnes and Noble as well as through Amazon. Furthermore, Paul pledged to donate \$5 to Rotary for every book that is purchased. In response to the question, "How will he know if I purchased a book?" The answer is tell Paul and he will take care of it.



GOOD NEWS

Not a lot of good news, but **Ted Marks** noted his wife served Christmas dinner to 49 people.

Dick Pope noted that his oldest granddaughter was accepted at Virginia Commonwealth University.

PRESIDENT'S TIME

President Wendy noted that the club has qualified for a district simplified grant. If anyone has an idea for this please contact any board member and the board will discuss it. Although the club has qualified it still must apply.

President Wendy announced that the District Conference will take place May 3-5, 2019 at The Kalahari Resort in the Poconos. The theme is Family Fun. The discount price is available until Dec 31st with 10 chances to win prizes. The discount will continue through Valentines Day, but fewer prizes are available during those days.

President Wendy quizzed several Rotarians, including **Paul Rossi**, on the content of DG **Mike Slovak's** recent message in the Grapevine. No one gave her an answer to her satisfaction.



SPEAKER

President Wendy then gave the microphone to **Dick Pope** to introduce the speaker, Lili

Marlene Ruland. Lili is the daughter of Kenneth and Jennifer Ruland and she is currently a Cadet at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Lili was born in Albany and raised in Corning. She was a 2014 graduate of Corning East High School. She attended Binghamton University and Marion Military Institute in Marion, Alabama prior to her appointment to West Point.

At West Point, Lili is majoring in Defense and Strategic Studies. She has received two varsity letters as a member of the Academy's Women's Rugby Team. Recently she has held the position of Company First Sergeant. Lili will graduate in 2020. She hopes to serve as an aviation officer upon receiving her commission.



Lili described her time and experiences at West Point highlighting the day she was told she had 60 seconds to say good-bye to her family, through the summer physical training when she learned she could, in fact, sleep on the ground.

She discussed the academics and the academic load all Cadets are expected to carry.

She related that the best part of West Point was the people. The diversity and the character of the people really stood out to her.

During the question portion of her presentation she noted her class was about 25% female, but she expects that number to soon reach 33%.

In response to the question, "Why West Point?" Lili noted that her father had been in the Army and it had always been a goal of hers. It took a little longer than she had hoped to obtain her commission, but she is very happy with her decision.

Clearly, Lili is a very special young lady and we are all very fortunate that she and people like her are willing to take this step in service to our country.

Thank you, Lili.

50/50 The \$7 pot was won by **Sam Sanfratello's** table.

Photos: Rick Davis
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