

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

Thursday, July 5, 2018 **12:10 p.m.**
Corning Radisson
Vol. 90 No. 1 **96 Members**

NEXT WEEK

July 12, 2018 **Al Gonzalez**
Wayfair- Director of Operations
Introduction by Stu Sammis.

IN THE WINGS

Jul 19, 2018 **Andrew Thompkins, Phd.**
The Finger Lakes Boat Museum
Introduction by Elijah Baity

Jul 26, 2018 **Jon Hartman**
VP of World Kitchen
World Kitchen community involvement

Aug 2, 2018 **Zoe Dessoye**
Returning Exchange student
Our outbound student tells her story about time in Austria

THIS WEEK

The Club met for lunch in the Keuka/Seneca Room at the Corning Radisson. President-elect **Jan Harvey** presided, with the help of secretary **Ernie Danforth**. **Jim Hudson** greeted us all on the piano, and **Wanda Rivera** was the greeter on the day after the 4th of July. The meeting opened with a chorus of "My Country 'Tis of Thee" and the Pledge of Allegiance. The Invocation was given by **Jeff Ugoretz**.

MEMBERS AND GUESTS

Prior to calling on **Wanda Rivera** for our guests and visiting Rotarians, **PE Jan** explained that she was filling in because PP **Ted Goldwyn** was on vacation and President **Wendy Winnett** was with her daughter in Saratoga who had just given birth to a baby boy. Unfortunately the baby required surgery and prayers would be appreciated.



Wanda called on **Francis LaLomia** who introduced his guest, Gilles Bertrand from Corning, Inc. This is Gilles' third visit. Could a new member be in the offing? Wanda then called on **Bill Boland** who introduced Kris West, a colleague of our speaker Andy Zepp.



MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cindy Long promoted the Endless Mountain Music Festival from July 20th through August 4th. She passed out free tickets. All of the Friday concerts will take place at Mansfield University and all of the Saturday concerts at CMoG.

Brandi Graham apologized for being gone for a couple of weeks, but she has been in The Netherlands for her son's graduation from the the oldest university in the Netherlands. It ranks 113th out of over 900 universities worldwide. He was the first international student in his program.



Brandi also put in a plug for the Camp Star Golf Tournament, July 16th at Indian Hills Golf

Club. Cost is \$75 per person for a 4 person team. They are also looking for door prizes. Contact **Brandi** and she will see that they get delivered.

Pauline Emery asked that all Rotarians consider signing up for summer reading at the library.

Wanda Rivera promoted the Salvation Army Christmas in July Civic Dinner, to be held on Thursday, July 12th at 6 p.m. at the Corning Country Club. Tickets are \$75 per person or \$600 for a table of eight. The proceeds will support the Salvation Army's programs throughout the year. Please help!



Francis LaLomia announced that the next International Committee meeting will be on Friday, July 13th at noon at the library.



Les Rosenbloom is raising money for the Tour de Keuka, Saturday, July 21st. All proceeds from the event will benefit the Food Pantry of the Southern Tier.



Les also announced that last week he had a visit from Howard and Genny Tong from New Zealand, PDG Wellington district 9940. Friendship exchange 2016. This was a couple he stayed with a couple in 2016 when he stayed with them as part of a Rotary Friendship exchange. Howard and Genny stopped on their way to Toronto for the RI Conference. **Les** presented the club with a flag.



BIRTHDAY TABLE

Occupying the birthday table this month were Brice Pearce, Paula Smith, Pauline Emery, Jeff Ugoretz, and Dave Anderson. All had July birthdays except David and it cost him a buck. Conspicuous by his absence from the table was Bill Plummer. He said he forgot, but tried to use Dick Wheat as an excuse. This still cost Bill one dollar. Les Rosenbloom admitted to a July birthday and it cost him a dollar as well.

PRESIDENT'S TIME

During the President's time **Jan** asked who helped with the fireworks the prior evening. Paul Tick was the only one to stand. It cost everyone else one dollar.



PROGRAM

At this point Jan called on Bill Boland to introduce our speaker, Andy Zepp. Andy is the Executive Director of the Finger Lakes Land Trust. This is an Ithaca-based non-profit conservation organization that works cooperatively with landowners and local communities to permanently protect undeveloped lands that are important to the character of the Finger Lakes region.

Andy noted that as a former Rotarian he knows how important it is to get out on time. To that end, his goal was to discuss three topics: the Land Trust, what the Trust does in Corning, and the challenge of toxic algae in the Finger Lakes.

Andy explained that the lands and the waters are the basis of the economy in the Finger Lakes. Agriculture contributes more than a billion dollars to the economy annually while tourism is a \$2 billion dollar industry. One of the goals of the land trust is to have those economies exist in harmony.

Among the conservation strategies Andy discussed were: creating new wetlands to buffer our lakes, streams and rivers,

maintaining the rural character of the Finger Lakes through stronger land use planning, and enhancing public access to the nature trails.

In particular, he discussed the Houghton Family preserve on Spencer Hill. Jamie and Maisie donated the land and funds to take care of it. When this project started, one of the first things Andy did was have a meeting with about 30 "neighbors." They were thrilled with the project and wanted more trails. This may lead to a trail that connects with the sidewalks of Corning. It is not guaranteed, but it is a rare opportunity.



Andy also discussed the toxic algae that were present in all 11 of the Finger Lakes for the first time last year. Two prime contributors are both due to climate change. First, the more intense rainfalls we have experienced wash nutrients from the soil into the lakes. Secondly, the longer and hotter summers allow these foreign particles to "cook," creating the algae.

Andy noted that the Land Trust acquires land. Right now it holds 150 conservation easements, which limit how land can be used. In the long run the goal is to create a

marriage between conservation and development.

Andy noted that the Land Trust has been able to purchase land that governments may want to purchase, but can't because of all the hoops that they have to pass through. The Land Trust will purchase land and hold it until the government can buy it back. The Land Trust can then use the money to purchase more land. In general, they purchase lots of 100 acres or more, but they will purchase smaller lots if they are strategically located.

Overall, this was a very interesting and informative presentation. Thank you, Andy.

50/50: The \$7 pot was won by **Wendy Daines'** table. The big pot sits at \$218.

Photos: Dick Perry
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