

Crystal Cogs



ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE

Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Corning NY

Chartered 1921

District 7120

CorningNYRotary.org

President: Ted Goldwyn
President-Elect: Brian Klotz
Vice-President: Wendy Winnett
Secretary: Scott Bloor
Treasurer: Wendy Daines
Past-President: Bill Boland
District Governor: Don Milton

Thursday 12:10 p.m.
Vol. 89 No 51

Radisson
107 Members

NEXT WEEK

June 28, 2018

Changeover Dinner

5:30 p.m.

IN THE WINGS

July 5, 2018

Andy Zepp

What's happening with the Finger Lakes Trust

July 12, 2018

Al Gonzalez

Wayfair - Director of Operations

THIS WEEK

The Club met at the Radisson Hotel Corning for food and fellowship. **Gail Hostuttler** greeted Rotarians at the door and administered the 50/50 raffle. **Jim Hudson** tickled the ivories. **Jeff Ugoretz** led us in prayer. **Rick Davis** captured the ongoing on camera, joined occasionally by **Dick Perry**. **Paula Smith** was our Cogs editor. President **Ted Goldwyn** presided for the last time.

GUESTS AND VISITING ROTARIANS



President Ted Goldwyn introduced his daughter Neila, his wife Maria, and his youngest son Jonah. **Rick Davis** brought his wife, Pat Davis. **Yuka** invited her second host family, Kate Hughes and Paul Schelling. **Geraldine Wolfe** deferred introducing her guests until later in the meeting.



Greeter **Gail Hostuttler** introduced Visiting Rotarian **David Howard**, who almost forgot to introduce his wife, Nina!



Dick Puccio introduced **Bill Boland's** sister and new Chairperson for House with Heart, Colleen Boland, and next to her, District Governor **Mike Slovak**. **Dave Kartzman** also deferred introducing his guests until later in the meeting.

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS



President Elect Wendy Winnett announced the Camp STAR Golf Tournament will be held at the Indian Hills Golf Course on Monday July 16, 2018. She emphasized the need for sponsors and teams, and asked Rotarians to look for more information via ClubRunner.



Nora Smith announced a correction to the ClubRunner email invite for the Changeover Dinner, which will be held next Thursday, June 28. Apparently, the two-hour cocktail hour was merely indicative of the type of day **Nora** was having that necessitated a two-hour cocktail hour! Instead, there will only be a one-hour cocktail hour beginning at 5:30 p.m., with a buffet-style dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the program will begin at 7:15ish. **President Ted** jested he was really looking forward to the two-hour cocktail party and might not go to the Changeover Dinner now!

Tickets may be purchased at the front desk for \$30. There will be a buffet including pasta and prime rib as well as a salad bar.

President Ted picked the dessert – chocolate mousse – so if you don't like the dessert, you can take it up with him! Rotarians were asked to please RSVP to Kelly Copp. **Nora** made amends for the two-hour cocktail hour miscommunication by making a donation, saying **Ted** could feel free to buy her a cocktail with it!

Dick Puccio announced there will be a brief International Dinner Committee meeting immediately following the regular Rotary meeting.

THE PROGRAM(S) SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Gerry Wolfe took the mic explaining we were only able to award scholarships to three of the four recipients last week because one of them was taking an exam. That final recipient was able to join us today.

Gerry called **Dave Kartzman** to the front of the room to do the introductions. **Dave** introduced Olivia Colonna, a high school senior at Corning. What really stood out to **Dave** on Olivia's application were two incredible letters of recommendation – one from the Red Cross and one from one of her Faith By Interaction (FBI) coordinators – as well as her VA service.



Olivia began by introducing her parents Carla and Jeff Colonna and her grandmother Diana Gerese. She thanked the Rotary Club for the amazing scholarship, saying we were helping her more than we know.

She plans to attend St. Bonaventure University this fall for Childhood Studies. Her senior year, she volunteered with the Red Cross, at the FBI Retreat, GlassFest booths, spoke to her church's congregation, raised money personally and through the Red Cross, made Christmas and Valentine's cards for the Veterans at the VA, and hosted two families at her house to make cookies for the VA Vets. Also, this past December she was at the VA hanging wreaths on graves, an experience she described as humbling.

Congratulations Olivia!

RYLA

Gerry Wolfe took the mic again announcing each year we send one student to the one-week Rotary Youth Leadership Academy, which is held in Rochester at RIT. This year we will be sending Julia Damor.



Julia introduced her parents, Jackie and Patrick Damor. **Gerry** concluded by presenting Julia with some spending money for her week at RYLA.

COLLEEN BOLAND

Dick Puccio introduced our first speaker, saying that as most of us know, Beverly Bronson, founder of House with Heart, a home for abandoned children in Katmandu, passed away recently. Beverly's good friend Colleen Boland has taken over the reigns and is here to talk with us today about the House with Heart and Beverly.

Colleen Boland's presentation started with what she referred to as "a tap dance," while Radisson personnel and **President Ted** struggled to get the AV equipment working!

Colleen said she has been Chairman of the Board of House with Heart for over three years, with four Board members in total.

Still tap dancing, Colleen took a question from the crowd, "How many children do you serve?" She replied, "Right now, House with Heart has 30 children." She explained, typically the House population has been kept at 24, but the need has been so great, particularly since the earthquakes in 2015. Since then, the House has taken in a total of six earthquake victims. The House has a growing population. The oldest is now 23 and helps tutor and supervise the younger children.

Another question from the crowd, "How old are the children when they leave?" Colleen explained boys typically leave the House at 18, primarily because it was supposed to be a house with woman and children. "When you have boys, the government says you have to have two separate buildings."

Finally, success! The PowerPoint is up and running!



Beverly Bronson was born September 8, 1947. She was diagnosed in December 2017 with cancer just about everywhere and passed away on Mother's Day, May 13, 2018. Colleen said it was appropriate it was Mother's Day as Beverly was a Mother to so many of the children at House with Heart.

House with Heart is a home for abandoned children, a skills training center for women, and an outreach program for the community. Colleen showed a picture proving Corning Rotarians have visited the House with Heart throughout the years.

Beverly started the House when she found Krishna and Babu, aged five and two, abandoned and huddled by a tiny shack.

Colleen then showed images of some of the many House with Heart children, telling the stories of how they were found and how well they are doing now.

Colleen said it wasn't enough for Beverly to save children; she wanted to get at the root of the problem, which was what caused a mother to be so desperate as to leave her children. So, House with Heart offers a skills training center for women and teaches basic literacy. They also do community outreach.

Colleen shared an example of Beverly working with a mother to get her children to school.

Right now the House is grieving. They are engaging in a 49-day Buddhist Puja. Every seven days they go through a big ceremony with visiting Lamas to help Beverly on her way to her next realm. As a Buddhist and believing in reincarnation, Colleen said, "We can expect nothing but good Karma for Beverly and a higher realm." Colleen then showed a picture of the first Puja, which lasted for eight hours, during which time the House with Heart children sat in silence.

Colleen then showed a video. If interested, you can [watch the video here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=52UI-C7QyA), or copy and paste this link into your browser: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=52UI-C7QyA>

Colleen said the House's felt-making program is really taking off and they have a lot of products that they mule to Hong Kong, Europe, and the United States (primarily New York) to sell at craft fairs for fundraisers.

Colleen finished the first video and continued with another, sharing more stories of the House's children, the circumstances under which they were found, their dreams, and positive outcomes.

She then showed pictures of the tents and shack they lived in after the earthquakes while the original building was being retrofitted and the new building was being constructed. She acknowledged Corning Rotary for coming to their rescue during that time. She also showed pictures of the second building completed.

Colleen will be meeting with the International Committee this afternoon to explore more ways in which we might continue to help. Right now, the House is in transition with the loss of their founder. The House will be a Board-led organization for the next six months. They are determined to keep the doors to House with Heart open and to continue Beverly's work.

Colleen concluded with saying that Beverly was always so grateful to Corning Rotary and considered us to be part of her extended family. Colleen also considers us to be part of her extended family, which is why she was here today, grieving for the first time, with all of us.

DON CREATH



Don Creath announced that his daughter Cathy has been involved with the physics team that won the Nobel Prize in Physics. His daughter was a graduate of East High, went to the University of Rochester, then to the University of Arizona, where she earned her PhD in Optical Engineering. Along the years she has been working on 3D color TV and space mirror blanks.

She was one of six consultants that came to correct the Hubble Telescope focus, and the only woman. Recently she has become one of the world's leading experts on the measurement of electromagnetic waves. The physics prize was awarded for proving Einstein's relativity theory about gravitational waves.

They built gravitational wave observatories in Lexington, LA, and Hanford, WA to measure the collision between two black holes in space, which proved part of Einstein's theory. **Don's** daughter was the space mirror blank expert who worked with them to put the space mirror blanks in the observatories.

Don donated \$20 in honor of his daughter's accomplishments.

INTRODUCING YUKA



Andy Taylor kicked off Yuka's presentation by thanking her host families, the Landon's, Kate Hughes and Paul Schelling, and the Goldwyn's. Apparently, they all loved her so much, they all wanted to spend more time with her!

Andy then thanked **John Brown** for his many years of service as Youth Exchange Counselor, checking in with our male exchange students.



He also thanked **Jan Harvey**, who transported Yuka back and forth from school to Rotary meetings every week.



Finally, **Andy** thanked **Gerry Wolfe**, who checked in periodically with all the families to make sure things were on track, completed online progress reports, and kept **Andy** in the loop.

He then invited **Jan** and **Gerry** to the front to share their experiences with Yuka. **Jan** talked about the transformation she saw in

Yuka during her time here, especially Yuka's confidence growing as her mastery of the English language grew.

Gerry then presented Yuka with some parting gifts, and Yuka took the floor.

YUKA



Yuka's final presentation was on Japan, her life in Japan, and her life in America as an exchange student.

Fun Facts About Japan:

- Located in East Asia
- Capital city is Tokyo
- Population is about 127 million people – about half of the U.S.'s population.
- About the same size as California
- Mt. Fuji is the highest mountain
- Shinano river is the longest river

The Climate:

- The rainy season usually lasts from the beginning of June to the middle of July
- The four seasons can be recognized clearly
- Winter on the Sea of Japan side of the country tends to have more cloudy, rainy or snowy days
- Yuka lives on the Pacific Ocean side, where snow only falls a few times a year

Sports:

- Baseball is the most popular sport
- Sumo wrestling is the national sport

Kimono: The kimono is the traditional Japanese garment, but most Japanese don't wear this garment in modern days. Yuka thinks it's because kimonos are a little tricky!

Yuka's Life in Japan:



Yuka is part of a family of four, including her parents and her sister, who is three years younger than her. Her father is a manager at a financial institution and a Rotarian. Her mother is a Kindergarten teacher and a great cook. People say she looks like her mother! Her sister is in middle school and plays basketball. Yuka misses her sister the most of all.

Yuka showed a picture of her three best friends in Japan. She has stayed in touch with them while she has been here.

Yuka is from Urayasu city near Tokyo. Her city is famous for Disney resorts! It used to be a fishing town, and there are still fish markets where you eat a lot of fresh seafoods.

Yuka's school is in Tokyo. It takes her about 50 minutes one way on the train to get to school. In the morning during rush hour the trains are very crowded. She showed a picture of a station attendant practically vertical as he pushed passengers into the train so the train's doors would close! The trains are so crowded Yuka often can't even move, which makes her exhausted by the time she gets to school.

The school is in a nice neighborhood close to the Emperor's Imperial Palace. There is a moat that is well known for its cherry blossoms in the spring, making it a popular tourist attraction.

Yuka then described the differences between going to school in America vs. Japan. In Japan, school starts in April and ends in March. In Japan, spring and cherry blossoms symbolizes the beginning of new life. Many schools have cherry trees growing on their grounds. So Japanese students start and finish school with cherry blossoms!

Also in Japan, almost all high school students have to wear school uniforms. She showed a picture of her school uniform. They even have to wear certain socks and school bags!

Another difference is Japanese students stay in their homeroom for most of their classes, except gym and art classes. Also, in Japan, students all take lunch at the same time. They have a cafeteria, but many students eat lunch in their homeroom with their classmates. Japanese students spend most of the school year with the same classmates, so relationships with classmates is very important.

Finally, Yuka talked about her experience as an exchange student. While here, she stayed with three different host families, whom she credits for her never having felt homesick. She appreciates her host families' kindness, generosity, and taking her so many places!

Yuka also talked about her American school life. Since she was little, she has wanted to experience American school life like on the Disney channel! The Corning-Painted Post High School is huge and students are very friendly, just like she imagined.

In Japan, there are 10 minute breaks between classes, but in her American school she has only 4 minutes to move between classes in that huge school building. At first, she often got lost in the building and had to walk very fast to the next classroom.

Yuka also made a lot of friends at school. She showed a picture of her ENL classmates at an ice cream party. ENL stands for English as a New Language. The class helps students who have moved here from all over the world who are not native English speakers. Her ENL classmates are all very sweet, even though she was the only exchange student there.

Yuka also shared she was surprised by many things in America. She said everything in American is huge compared to Japan, especially food. At the grocery store, she was surprised by the size of a birthday cake! Then there was McDonald's, which is also popular in Japan. She showed a picture comparing a large drink at McDonald's in Japan to a medium drink at McDonald's in America. The American medium size drink was larger than the Japanese large size drink!

Yuka concluded by thanking Rotarians for inviting her to lunch every week. She said Corning Rotary Club's people are very supportive and kind. She thanked us for everything and said she appreciates us all.



Goodbye Yuka! You will be missed!

50/50

The sure win was \$11. The Grand Prize amount remains safe at \$211.

