

Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Corning NY Chartered 1921 District 7120 CorningNYRotary.org

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

Thursday, May 17, 2018 Corning Radisson	12:10 p.m.
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## **NEXT WEEK**

May 24, 2018 12:10 PM Kate Douglas CCC Where we are and upcoming intiatives Introduced by Elijah Baity

### **IN THE WINGS**

May 31, 2018 12:10 PM Steve Hughes United Way Update on their new direction and marketing Introduced by Elijah Baity

Jun 07, 2018 12:10 PM TBD

Jun 14, 2018 12:10 PM Gerry Wolfe Scholarship awards Leon Golder Log Cabin Restoration Project June 21, 2018 12:10 PM Yuka Her Year in Review

June 28, 2018 – Evening Changeover Dinner at the Radisson

## THIS WEEK

The Club met for lunch in the Keuka/Seneca Room at the Corning Radisson. President **Ted Goldwyn** presided, with the help of secretary **Scott Bloor**. **Jim Hudson** greeted us all on the piano; and **Jennifer Ellison** was the greeter on a busy day that included so many special guests from Winfield School.





The meeting opened with a chorus of "My Country 'tis of thee" and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Winfield students Nathan and Rebel. The Invocation was given by **Don Creath**.



Before lunch was complete the club paused to give a standing ovation to **Buddy Cutler** who returned to the club for the first time after a long and serious illness. Good to have him back!



**MEMBERS AND GUESTS** 

After a very special lunch, **President Ted** called on **Jennifer** to introduce our guests and visiting Rotarians.



John Wahlig introduced his guest Dr. Christine Moremi. Gil Sweet introduced his guest Dr. Hugh Wang, a past presenter and a potential member. Barry Nicholson introduced his guest Joyce Smith. President Ted introduced his wife Maria. Finally Jennifer reintroduced our visiting Rotarian Peter Herzberg and guest, Teddy!

#### PROGRAM

Because of our guests today the order of business was altered a bit. At this point **President Ted** called on **Pauline Emery** and **Nora Smith** to introduce our program.



Pauline introduced the Winfield staff that was present. This list included the principal, Michele Wright, the second grade teachers, Doreen Bonomo and Barbara Hursh, learning specialist, Cathy Baker and classroom assistants Holly Ergott and Kim Clark.

**Nora Smith** gave the club a brief history of the program. It started three years ago with the Literacy Committee and the Sustaining Fund Committee who worked together to make a three year pledge to Winfield School to provide the incoming kindergarten class a book each month during the academic years of kindergarten, first grade and second grade. The program was so popular that First Presbyterian Church adopted the next kindergarten class, and First Heritage Federal Credit Union has adopted the current kindergarten group.



**Nora** explained the books are special in the sense that they are designed for the student to read one page and the parent to read the other. She also presented Principal Wright with a Family Day Pass to the YMCA for each member of the second grade class complements of **Gail Hostuttler**. Teachers Bonomo, Baker and Hursh shared some pictures of the students at work and play.



They pointed out how much the students not only valued the books that they received, but also the chances to interact with the Rotarians through skits, crafts, carnival activities, and the opportunity to write their own stories. For this the children gave the club a rousing, "Thank you!"



Principal Wright shared some statistics that indicated that the Winfield second graders

obtained the highest normalized reading test scores and the greatest growth target of any school in the district, by a wide margin. Is this a direct result of the Rotary Literacy Program? There is no way to know for sure, but the enthusiasm for reading that this program has generated is real.



Finally, Zed Weeks and Liam Griffin, Mya Gantt and Alyssa VanAlstine, Manny Letson and Rya Bailey, and Gabby Landolf all shared with the club their stories which all had the same title, "If You Give a Kid a Book."



These books were the result of a month long project which the student composed in pairs and illustrated themselves. Very impressive!



A special thank you to **Nora**, **Pauline**, **Michele Donegan** and the Radisson staff to make this very special program happen!



#### MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

After the Winfield guests left **President Ted** called for announcements. The first was given by **Jennifer Ellison** plugging the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 171 Cedar Arts Center. They

will be hosting an event on June 9<sup>th</sup> titled Dining In Flight, an outdoor party. Cost for adults is \$80 per person. There is a special cost for children. For more information check out

https://171cac.networkforgood.com/events/ 6903-dining-in-flight.



**Paula Smith** noted that the STEPS walk to end poverty in Steuben County will take place on Saturday and to date Rotarians had donated \$705 to the cause.



**Kelly Copp** thanked her helpers who helped clean Veteran's Memorial Park last evening and place flags on appropriate gravesites in Fairview Cemetery in Painted Post last evening. Both jobs took less than two hours total thanks to the number of volunteers.



At this point **President Ted** asked all of those people who had helped the previous evening to stand. Then had all those who planted trees or participated in highway cleanup last week to join them. He then asked all of those who attended the district conference the first weekend in May to join the group, and fined all those still sitting a dollar each.

**President Ted** then noted the **Phylis Jensen** is still looking for volunteers to help with GlassFest Memorial Day Weekend. If you can, please contact **Phylis** or **Ted**.

**Dick Puccio** gave a heartfelt eulogy for Beverly Bronson, the director for House with Heart in Kathmandu, Nepal who died of cancer this past Sunday.



### YUKA'S TIME

Yuka shared with the club stories of her time spent at the Rotary District Conference and attending the CPP District Student Art Show at CMoG. Yuka's ceramic squirrel was included in the show!



PRESIDENT'S TIME

**President Ted** yielded some of his time to **Gil Sweet** who thanked some of the musicians in the club for their help with the Erwin Valley School Choral Concert. **Gil** made a \$10 donation in honor of those members. **Ted** then called on Peter Herzberg, noting it was good to see him and Teddy back in Corning.



To end a long exciting meeting, **President Ted** called on **Ernie Danforth** to help him quickly present to the club the Strategic Plan that the Board of Directors has been working on this year.



# The Plan has six Priorities:

- Priority 1: Become recognized as the leading service club in the Corning area through active, regular community engagement.
- Priority 2: Provide a variety of service opportunities locally and internationally.
- Priority 3: Provide quality and variable meeting experiences.
- Priority 4: Enhance youth programs.
- Priority 5: Stabilize and increase membership.
- Priority 6: Stabilize the club finances and processes.



**President Ted** noted we have made progress on many of these priorities this year and that **Wendy Winnett** will lead us as we enter the next year of the plan. He emphasized that the plan is constantly under review and can be revised at any time. If anyone has questions or suggestions please contact any member of the Board of Directors.

**50/50:** The \$14 pot was won by **Don Creath**'s table. The big pot sits at \$157.

Photos: Bill Boland ECD