

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, September 20, 2018 12:10 p.m.**  
**Corning Radisson**  
**Vol. 90, No. 12 98 Members**

### NEXT WEEK

**Sept. 27, 2018 Nancy Kirby**  
**Innovation Center**

### IN THE WINGS

**Oct. 4, 2018 DG Mike Slovak**  
**State of the District**

**Oct. 11, 2018**  
**Special In-Service Project—** Card Shower  
for the veterans residing at the Bath VA

**Oct. 18, 2018 Club Assembly**

### THIS WEEK'S CLUB SERVICE

Greeter: **Darin Strong**  
Photographer: **Gil Sweet**  
Invocation: **John Sands**  
Music Provided by: **n/a**  
COGS: **Ted Goldwyn**

### THIS WEEK

**President Wendy Winnett** presided over this week's meeting. We enjoyed a delicious meal in the rustic environs of Spencer Crest Nature and Research Center.

### GUESTS

There were no guests nor 50/50 this week, so Greeter of the Day, **Darin Strong** got off pretty easy...

However, **President Wendy** did extend a hearty "welcome back" to **Harmony Ayers-Friedlander!**



### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Buddy Cutler** invited all Rotarians and friends to attend the **Libraries for Life** fundraiser at the Watkins Glen Harbor Hotel next **Thursday, September 27**, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Buddy and wife Sharon are hosts of the event. Tickets are only \$25, with proceeds going to support the Foundation for the Southern Tier Libraries. Contact Buddy to purchase tickets.

**Gil Sweet** asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of **John Sands'** beloved dog, Jack, who passed away just this morning.



**President Wendy** reminded us of several exciting Rotary District 7120 events:

The annual **Eastern Cities Dinner** will be held on Sunday, October 28, in Rochester. Current **Rotary President Barry Rassin** will be the honored guest.

A **Rotary polio immunization trip** to Cotonou, Benin, West Africa is planned for October 2 – 11, 2018. Travelers will also attend the thirteenth annual West Africa Project Fair and engage in a hands-on work project. Cost is \$1,729 per-person for double occupancy. Space is limited and filling up fast! For more info, go to: <http://www.howardtours.net/polio-immunizations--west-africa-project-fair.html>.

The **Rotary Leadership Institute** will be held on November 3, 2018 at Palmyra-Macedon High School. Register by October 25 at [www.rlinea.org](http://www.rlinea.org).

The **Rotary Friendship Exchange** is an international exchange program for Rotarians, spouses and friends. In 2019, District 7120 will visit Rotarians in Brazil, England, and South Africa. Visits to Australia

and Alaska are planned for 2020. For information about the program, contact Carl Grovanz at [CGrovanz@rochester.rr.com](mailto:CGrovanz@rochester.rr.com).

In celebration of the 102<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the **Rotary Foundation**, the annual dinner will be held on November 30, 2018 from noon to 3:00 at Ventosa Vineyard in Geneva. The cost is just \$35 per person for a delicious buffet dinner with cash bar. Register by November 15, 2018.

For more information on any of the above programs, check out the September edition of the **District Grapevine**:  
<https://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/000050098/en-ca/files/homepage/district-7120-newsletter-grapevine-september/District-7120-Newsletter-Grapevine-September-2018-.pdf>

**Stu Sammis** is looking for 1-2 additional volunteers to help set up the Wineglass Marathon course on Sunday, September 30 at 5:30 am. Contact **Stu** at [sammisstuart@gmail.com](mailto:sammisstuart@gmail.com) if you're available.

**President Wendy** also gave a shout-out on behalf of her boss, **Cathy Weil**, who is helping organize a diaper drive for the First Baptist Church in Painted Post, in celebration of next week's National Diaper Drive Week. The Church gives away disposable diapers every other week, and Wendy reminded us that there is tremendous need in our community as federal welfare dollars don't cover diapers. To this end, please bring a package of disposable diapers or preferably a monetary donation to next week's meeting. **Wanda Rivera** mentioned that your local Salvation Army also regularly provides diapers to local community members in need.

## PROGRAM

Our guest speaker was **Jennifer Sellers**, the Coordinator of Applied Learning and Learning Resources at Corning Community College. Jennifer also serves as an adjunct lecturer on sustainability and manages Spencer Crest Nature and Research Center. Jennifer is originally from Michigan and ran two nature centers prior to her arrival in Corning. She is a vegan, and has organized the Red Baron Half Marathon event over the past few years.

Jennifer shared that Spencer Crest recently changed its name to the Spencer Crest Nature and Research Center in support of its renewed focus on teaching and research. In fact, our meeting had to end on time as there was a class onsite beginning at 2:00.

Jennifer's talk focused on the close connection between hunting and environmental conservation throughout human history.



Early humans were dependent on hunting for survival. In fact, hunting dates to pre-historic times, even before the rise of *homo sapiens*. Early genera including *homo*

*erectus*, and even chimpanzees hunted for subsistence.

Spencer Crest was recently gifted a large donation of 52 taxidermic specimens from **Dr. Jim Felli**, retired orthodontist and former President of Corning Rotary Club.



Jennifer discussed some of the prehistoric Ice Age mammal specimens on display, including a mastodon tusk and an early bison skull.

The word "Chemung" means "big tusk," and mastodons once were common to our area, as they were woodland animals.

As humans moved into cities, there was less space to hunt, resulting in the domestication of animals. Hunting became more of a social activity, but even today it remains important in marginal, rural communities, such as the native communities in Alaska and Siberia. It wasn't until the turn of the twentieth century that the conservation movement began. Teddy Roosevelt founded the Boone and Crockett Club in 1887. In the U.S., regulations such as the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937 instituted



bag limits, hunting seasons, and hunting licenses. The Federal Duck Stamp Program has resulted in \$667 million generated for conservation, and 5.2 million acres preserved.

For passenger pigeons, such laws were too late, as the species went extinct in 1914. It was once the most abundant bird in North America, with flocks in the millions and billions. Yet the species was eliminated in just a couple of hundred years. The loss of the passenger pigeon has had unintended consequences, as they ate tree seeds. Deer and mice took over that task and flourished, resulting in an explosion of tick populations since the passenger pigeon's extinction.

In better news, both the turkey and bison were saved by the combination of new regulations and captive breeding programs.

Many hunters are also conservationists, and major hunting organizations contribute much toward the preservation of habitats for wildlife.

Worldwide, hunting provides significant benefits to emerging economies like those in Africa, including tourism, employment, and reinvestment. Revenue from hunting is also used to designate wildlife sanctuaries. Unfortunately, in Africa several species have been trophy-hunted and illegally poached nearly to extinction, including rhinos, the cape buffalo, greater kudu, and bush bok.

Jennifer was adamant that because of the work of conservationists, Spencer Crest exists! Nature centers like Spencer Crest are free of hunting and are safe for animals to live and thrive.

Spencer Crest is open from 10-4 every day. A student intern is helping design a new exhibit to house the donated specimens. Renovations will be done over the winter to support this project.

Other students are working on a field guide to the Center. Last semester, students conducted a wildlife census, recording all the animals to be found at the Center.



During a lively Q&A session, past Spencer Crest board members and volunteers shared their memories of the Center. Did you know:

- In 1976, Corning Rotary took on the project of constructing the original building. Rotarians involved included **Dick Pope, John Wahlig, Bill Plummer, and Les Rosenbloom.**
- According to **Dick Pope**, \$112,500 was raised for the project.
- Several taxidermy pieces from **Sam Sanfratello** are included in the Center's collection.

- The original roof was a plastic solar design, and according to **Dave Anderson**, it "leaked like a sieve."
- The late performer John Denver came to the building dedication. According to **Dick Pope**, Denver brought his guitar and entertained the Center's board and guests.
- Late Rotarian Bob Rockwell donated the Center's skull collection.
- Another late, great Rotarian, Dr. Walter Smith's ashes are on the trail.

Why not take a hike along Spencer Crest's many wonderful trails? Maps and guides are available at the Center. Don't forget the bug spray!



**No 50/50 this week.**

TJG