



# STURBRIDGE ROTARY CLUB

23 NOVEMBER 2016

District # 7910

PUBLICATION # 276

## Sturbridge Rotary Club supports meal programs this holiday season



Left to right; Dave Zonia, Otto Prohaska, Lisa Meunier, Bill Pioppi, Bob White and Peter Zeh

At the November 21st meeting, President Otto Prohaska, PhD presents \$600 to Ms. Lisa Meunier, a nurse at Burgess Elementary School, to assist in her efforts with holiday meals to the “Burgess Kids” and their families. She had many heart-breaking stories about the “Burgess Kids” and their families in need. All of the members were in awe of her stories and surprised by the degree of need in our community. Ms. Meunier gave a detailed review of her efforts and the confidentiality with the families involved.

Mr. Bill Pioppi representing the John Paul II Food Pantry described the Food Pantry’s efforts to support Ms. Meunier’s program. When learning of Ms. Meunier’s program, the Sturbridge Rotary Club facilitated a partnership between Lisa and the Food Pantry to support these families.

The Sturbridge Rotary Club recently donated \$500 to the John Paul II Food Pantry to support families this holiday season through the Tri-Community Church Cooperative.



# STURBRIDGE ROTARY CLUB

## Kate Blackwell describes her business



At the November 21st meeting Mrs. Blackwell, a massage therapist, described how a massage regime can help with a wide range of health issues. She is working with physicians, physical therapists, chiropractors, and other specialists, in order for patients to recover from their medical situation through massage therapy.

Kate described why a person would employ a routine massage program. This resulted in numerous questions with several members considering utilizing this program. Mrs. Blackwell can be reached at New Horizons, 538 Main Street, Fiskdale, MA 01518, tel: 774-208-2927.

## Lottery Basket Fundraiser



The Sturbridge Rotary Club's major fund raiser commenced in September and only a few ticket receipts are still outstanding. There were tables set up at the Harvest Festival at the Publick House (above) and the Tantasqua High School Craft Fair (left). Several thousand dollars will be raised to support the Club's scholarship program.





# STURBRIDGE ROTARY CLUB

## Fellowship at the Art Center



October 22nd members of the Sturbridge Club enjoyed a presentation by Southbridge Historian Steve Brady at the Art Center in Southbridge. Steve's tour included highlights: of the town's map of 1855, a quilt made by 14 ladies who had worked on it for 3 years, a rug made by the Women's Club for the 200 years of Southbridge's incorporation, a payroll Book of 1886 of the Hamilton Woollen company and a U.S.S. Maine Plaque given to Southbridge in memory of the sinking of the battleship in 1898.



Steve also showed a Time Capsule containing pertinent info that will be buried and dug up in 50 years.

The Art Center included a selection of the many great watercolor paintings of "Southbridge's own" artist, Charlie Gaulin – capturing Southbridge downtown and surrounding nature scenes.

Following the presentation, members attended "Breaking Legs", a production at the nearby Gateway Theatre.

Honorary Rotarian Glenys



# STURBRIDGE ROTARY CLUB

## Ann Murphy, Town Accessor



President Otto Prohaska, PhD (left) presents Anne Murphy a Sturbridge Rotary mug after her presentation to the Club at the November 7th meeting.

Ann explained that property taxes are assessed by a sales approach. They are 1 to 5 years behind market, but want to stay with 10% of Fair Market Value. Anne said that there are chapter programs for 5+ acres for lower taxes. She also mentioned that every sale affects everyone in the community.

Autos are taxed at 90% MSRP with a five year depreciation schedule until at 10% and stays at that rate for the life of the car. Anne also mentioned a veteran benefit that if the veteran works for the town for 50 hours, that veteran will get a break of \$500.00 off of their real estate taxes.

There were numerous questions after Ann's presentation.

## Antique Appraisal Show



October 29th the Club sponsored an antique appraisal fundraiser .



# STURBRIDGE ROTARY CLUB

## THE THANKSGIVING FOOTBALL TRADITION



At the November 14th meeting, the rival teams were invited to the Clubs annual pre- Thanksgiving celebration. Representing Tantasqua Regional High School is Coach Joe Beverage (right) from School and team captains.

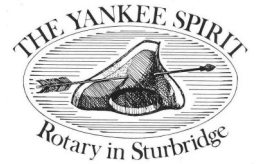


Coach Matthew Morway (third from left) of Shepherd Hill Regional High School and their captains.

Each coach gave a brief speech congratulating their players for all their hard work and their respect for the quality of the other team. The winners of the Homecoming Game will return to the Club next week to claim the Rotary football trophy.



# STURBRIDGE ROTARY CLUB



## CLUB NOTES

- The Sturbridge Rotary Club's fifth International Project has been approved by the District. This project is known as the Kosovo II project. Next is the approval by The Foundation.
- October 17th meeting; Stourbridge / Sturbridge Friendship Day. There was a replay of a live greeting between the Clubs that was skype-recorded earlier in the day during Stourbridge's regular Rotary meeting. Renewed enthusiasm for the twinning relationship was very evident by both Clubs.
- October 31st meeting, members celebrated Halloween.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Monday, November 28th** - Regular Meeting—Winning football team will be presented the Trophy. The Lottery Basket winner will be drawn.
- **Sunday, December 4th** - District Christmas Party at the Publick House.
- **Monday, December 5th**- No Meeting.
- **Sunday, December 11** - Club Christmas Party - Yankee grab - at the Kingman home.
- **Monday, December 12** - No Meeting
- **Monday, December 19** - Regular Meeting
- **Monday, December 26** - No Meeting



*Happy Thanksgiving*