As I write this, I am mindful of the thousands of Rotarians and neighbors who have been impacted by the wind storm and power outages in our area. I know of countless acts of service and kindness performed by our fellows in their communities. All of our thoughts and prayers go out to those effected.

As I continue through this term as your District Governor, I am reminded of my year, 2006-2007, as President of the Rotary Club of Canandaigua. Though I had been an active member of my Club for many years and thought that I knew everything that we did as projects and fund raisers, it was not until I served as President that I truly understood the scope of our impact on Canandaigua and the community. In a similar manner, I now appreciate the force that our 70 Clubs have made this year and always.

Since last month, I have attended pasta dinners, Valentine celebrations, Paul Harris inductions, spelling bees and literacy projects, Interact Club involvements with Polio Plus, Grant Management Seminars, and an Area 12 Spring Fling. Along with committee meetings, consultation with the members of the Governor's track and too many emails to count, I know that Rotary is alive and well in District 7120.

During the first weekend in March, I was honored to greet the nine finalists for our District Oratorical contest. Under the leadership of Red Jacket Rotarian, Don Collins, this year's contest offered scholarships to over 15 local colleges. At the finals held at the Finger Lakes Community College, these nine contestants spoke about the application of Rotary's Four-Way Test to their personal and professional lives. Penfield High junior Emma Hart took first place in Rotary's District Oratorical Contest. Emma was mentored by teacher Jordan Garbarino and his English Department colleagues. I offer the congratulations of District Rotarians to Emma and to all of the participants in this year's contest. You can view Emma's winning presentation in a video prepared by Travis Piper: https://youtu.be/noC6ufeNqLM.

This past Tuesday was a day of anniversaries and celebrations. I was humbled to have been part of the celebration in Dansville commemorating William "Bill" Kelly's 70 years of service to Rotary and to Dansville. After returning to Dansville at the end of World War II, Bill joined Rotary in 1947. Serving as President in 1958-1959, Bill has led every project over the years from Clara Barton Days to pancake suppers to youth activities. Joined by his family and covered by WHAM channel 13 television, the afternoon was a joyful remembrance of his life and career.

Later the same day, Sandie and I traveled to Elmira for the 100th anniversary dinner of the Rotary Club of Elmira. Over 115 guests were entertained at the lovely restored Cowles Hall at Elmira College. Elmira Rotary was organized September 27th, 1916 as the second Club in what would become District 7120. The Club has chartered 11 Clubs during its tenure, 6 within the first 5 years of existence. Over 30 Clubs in District 7120 can trace their lineage to the Elmira Rotary Club. Under the direction of Club President Ron Shaw and Anniversary Dinner Chair, Joe Koczan, the dinner included the presentation of 14 Paul Harris Fellowships, a recollection of significant activities of the Club and even a visit from Paul Harris. Kudos to the entire Club for a job well done.

Finally, I would like to once again offer the warm invitation from the Conference Committee to attend our District Conference in Erie, PA. Beginning on Friday, May 19th we will spend three days of Rotary fun, fellowship, celebration, inspiration and education. I remind all that the early bird discount of $50 per couple runs out April 1st. Join the hundreds of your fellows who have already registered for the 2017 Conference. See You in Erie.

http://www.districtconference.org/

DG Tom
The Red Jacket Rotary Club breakfast meeting on January 30 focused on our support for and empowerment of youth. One of our 2016 scholarship recipients, Hanna Cheasman, reported on her first semester experience at Finger Lakes Community College. We presented her with a check for $1,000 to help with college expenses.

Pictured above: President, Jeff Crawford, presents a check to Hanna Cheasman

Following that celebration, the two high school students who we are sponsoring for the District 7120 Oratorical Contest, presented. Alicia Quarterman (Naples) and Kenyon Carlson (Home School) riveted our attention as they wove their 5-7 minute speeches around the Rotary Four Way Test.

Kenyon Carlson (with his dad) and Alicia Quarterman (with her mom)

“SAVE THE DATE”
Saturday, July 8, 2017
Rotary Day at the Red Wings

Attention District Rotarians and friends!!! We are reaching out early this year to give the outgoing and incoming Club Presidents information to pass along to their clubs about this GREAT Annual District Event. The Rochester Red Wings will be hosting the Syracuse Chiefs this year and there is a friendly bet between incoming District 7120 Governor Don Milton and District 7150 Governor Phyllis Danks. More details to come via your Assistant Governors.

REMEMBER: Outstanding Fireworks Display after the game!!!!
It is not too early to put July 8th on your calendar!
In Remembrance

Gerald B. Thompson

The Nunda Rotary Club is saddened to report that our Rotarian, Gerald Thompson, passed this past week. He will be dearly missed by this club and our community. He was a past president (1977-1978, 2012-2013) of our club. He has served several years as our Foundation Chairperson, Vocational Service Chairperson, Genesee Valley Rotary Camp Chairperson, Club Historian, Youth Exchange Chairperson, and a recipient of numerous Paul Harris Awards.

Gerald, age 83, died February 16, 2017. He was born on June 30, 1933, in the Town of Portage to the late Byron & Elizabeth Thompson. He is predeceased by his daughter, Joyce. Survived by his wife, Alice; daughter, Carol (Tom) Cunningham of Silver Springs; 3 grandsons, Peter (Melissa), Thomas (Amy) & Michael; 1 granddaughter, Sarah; 4 great-grandchildren, Brenden, Nathan, Ivy & Pyper; his brother, Arnold Thompson of Nunda; 2 sisters, Mary Ransom of Mt. Morris, Donna Haggerty of Bonita Springs, FL; his brother-in-law, Robert (Christine) Phelps of Groveland; nieces & nephews.

District Training Assembly Preview

The District 7120 Training Assembly (DTA) is right around the corner. This is a day when more information about Rotary is shared, discussed, and learned than any other single day of the Rotary year in our district. This year's DTA will be held on April 8th at Newark High School. Registration details are on our District Website.

Here are some of the approximately three dozen topics that will be presented:

- PDG and Annual Fund Chair Don Alhart, along with PDG and District Foundation Committee Chair Ellen Hughes, will start things off by commemorating the Foundation's 100th anniversary.
- Polio Plus: The Current State of the Project and What the Future Holds
- Annual Fund SHARE, Paul Harris and Sustaining Member Societies
- District Simplified Grants
- Creating Membership Enthusiasm
- What Can Clubs Do to Attract Younger Members?
- Membership Growth
- Timely Topics to Enhance Membership for Newer Clubs
- Membership Issues for Smaller Rotary Clubs
- You’re a New Rotarian. Now What?
- Getting Involved with Youth Exchange
- Youth Exchange, The Short-Term Exchange Program - STEP
- The New Generations Exchange Program
- Interact: Investing in the Future of Rotary
- The Rotary Friendship Exchange Program
- District 7120 Governor Elect Hospitality Program
- Public Relations is a Never-Ending Process
- Social Media with a Focus on Facebook
- Excitement Along the Road to Rotary
- Marketing your Event for Growth Now and in the Future
- Kick Start Your Club with Rotary Hospitality – The Powerful Ingredient for Success
- Shhh…The Secret of Effective Programming Finally Revealed
- The Children’s Poverty Initiative
- Conflict Resolution
- Literacy and the New Software Libraries
- The District Literacy Program and Award Criteria
- Successful Service Projects - A Panel Discussion
- Club Secretaries Training

AND MORE

This promises to be an informative and fulfilling day. Please remember to submit registrations by March 17th.

District Membership Development Committee

The District Membership Development Committee is pleased to welcome and congratulate the following new members/transfers for February 2017:

* Dundee - Patricia McIlvride & William McIlvride
* Elmira - Terry Northrup
* Geneseo - Lori Bush & Jane Wagorn
* Livonia - Jim Franco
* Spencerport - Janice Elliott & Jonathan Spencer

Please note that the above is based on reports found on the District 7120 website. There may be more new members/transfers than the list shows due to some clubs registering directly with RI and NOT with the District.

We encourage ALL CLUBS to register their new members/transfers with the District so that they can be recognized each month.
The Rotary Foundation News from District 7120

The Foundation Brunch will be held March 26, 2017 at Ravenwood Golf course in Victor from noon to three. By the time you receive this, the registration deadline will have passed. We will miss you if you did not register. If you mention you saw it in the Grapevine to MaryAnn Mady, she will still add you to the guest list for 2 days after the Grapevine comes out and then your chance is lost. Please come join us for a fun and interesting afternoon.

So how is your board game coming along? Completed game boards are due to DRFC Ellen by May 1st. Try to get yours done...a minimum of 5 activities (one from each column) needed to be a winner. Or your club could be a big winner and be one of the top three clubs in the district to accomplish the most squares!

So why should you be giving to The Rotary Foundation? There are may reasons...I bet you can name several yourself. Just remember....it is the 100th Anniversary of the charity founded by Rotarians for Rotarians! and you are a Rotarian, right?

Interested in another giving idea? I will be taking orders through April 8th at the District Training Assembly. That will be your last chance to get in on this great fundraiser and get a case of wine for your donation. By donating $220 dollars to the Rotary Foundation, you will get a case of either red or white wine or a mixed case with a 100 Anniversary label on it! The wine is made by Glenora Wineries in Dundee. Order forms are available on the district website and from your FAD and from Ellen, of course.

Programs? Have we got them! Your FAD could do a program for you or your Club Foundation Chair. PolioPlus Chair Laurie Vonglis from Avon is willing to come to your club and do a program on polio. Grants Chair Chuck Turner could come and do a program on grants. Bertin Mboko could come and do a program on Rotary Peace Scholars. PDG Eric Parker could come and talk about the Paul Harris Society or the Sustaining Member Society. Lots of easy ways for your club to be in the know about the Foundation!

Happy Foundation Giving!

Canandaigua Awards Paul Harris Fellowship - Al Walker

By Jack Kellogg

At a recent meeting of the Canandaigua Rotary Club Al Walker was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship. As an active member since 2011, he has been the painstaking Treasure of the Club’s affairs for nearly four years. His tenacity has been appreciated so much by the Club that the bylaws were amended to extend his term.

Pictured above are Club President Ellen Polimeni and Al Walker.

Perry Rotary Welcomes New Member

Past President Jeff Fitch (at left) tried to control his emotions over newest Rotarian Sarah Schmitter being taller than he is.
The Magic of ZERO

Happy March and almost Spring. As Rotarians spring has us busy planning many things. Our calendars are filling up with countless opportunities; Foundation Brunch in March, District Training Assembly in April and the highlight of the year for some – the District Conference in May. Some even have the Rotary International Convention on their calendar. While we have much to look forward to, there is still work to be done with the remaining months of this Rotary year. Our District and Club leaders are still working on meeting goals, completing projects, inducting new members and much more. One extremely important goal, I’m writing to remind you about, is your role in giving to the Foundation PolioPlus fund. There is still time! To the clubs and individual members who have already met their goals and made generous contributions – I thank you. The children of the world thank you. Clubs and individual members have contributed $35,856.88 to date. With the District’s DDF, our total, SO FAR is $57,698. I encourage everyone to fulfill DG Tom’s goal of a $26.50 donation to PolioPlus from each District member. Be a part of history.

As I learn more about Polio, the history and current news is amazing. Progress made in the last 30 years is remarkable. Our partners in this battle are strong and steadfast. The Gates Foundation continues to match all Rotary gifts 2 to 1. The work they do for Polio and a long list of other items is awe-inspiring. To learn more about our very important partner visit the website below. Their message for those fighting the battle against Polio is “The Magic of Zero”. As of March 1st the number of new Polio cases in 2017 is 3. That’s half as much as last year at this time. We are getting there. We are close, but close is not good enough. It has to be ZERO. Keep that in mind when you consider making a contribution to a very worthy cause.

An excerpt from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Annual Letter: February 14, 2017

Bill: It’s thrilling to be nearing the day when no children will be crippled by polio. But we’re often asked why we’re making such a big effort on polio if our priority is to save lives. The answer is, ending polio will save lives—through the magic of zero. When polio is eradicated, the world can dedicate polio funds to improving child health, and the lessons from polio will lead to better immunization systems for other diseases.

To read the entire letter visit: https://www.gatesnotes.com/2017-Annual-Letter?WT.mc_id=02_14_2017_02_AL2017GFO_GF-GFO &WT.tsrc=GFGFO

Thank you.
Yours In Rotary Service,
Laurie Vonglis
District 7120 Foundation PolioPlus Chair

Andy Gray - PHF
By Judie VanBramer

Greece Rotarian Andy Gray, center, was recently honored with a Paul Harris Sapphire 1 upgrade (PHF+1). Presiding over the award presentation were Dan Barletta, left, Foundation Chair and Keith Rockcastle, right, Greece Club President. Gray has been a member of the Club since 2002 and currently serves on the Board of Directors.

Wheeler Named Honorary Bath Rotarian

At a recent weekly, luncheon meeting of the Bath Rotary Club Mike Slovak (at left), Bath Rotarian, presented Dave Wheeler (at right) Honorary membership in the local club. Wheeler was first inducted into the Bath Rotary Club back in 1961, served as President in 1983 – 1984, and became a Paul Harris Fellow. His most vivid memory is serving as Chair of the District 7120 Conference in 1984 when Harry Cohn, past Bath Rotarian, served as District 7120 District Governor.

Bath Rotary Club President, Elaine Tears, pinned Wheeler with an official Rotary membership pin, a 2016 – 2017 Rotary International theme pin, and an honorary membership badge and congratulated Wheeler for his past Rotary service.
There are still a few Clubs that have not registered their members to the District Training Assembly (DTA). Because we want all Rotary clubs, in the District, to send attendees to this biggest Training opportunity in the District, we have extended the deadline to Tuesday, March 21, 2017.

There are over 30 Breakout Sessions to choose from! There is one Membership Breakout session for clubs with 20 or fewer members. If your club falls within this group, register for the DTA and network and brainstorm ideas with clubs of your size.

As mentioned in previous communications, sending your members to the DTA is a great investment with a great rate of return. Register and pay for your members to attend and have an even stronger club – a club with inspired, motivated, informed and up-to-date with Rotary information membership.

What are you waiting for? Register NOW!!!

See you all in Newark on Saturday, April 8th for fun, fellowship and training.

Any questions, please feel free to call or email PDG Norma (585-425-4812, Leonora@frontiernet.net) or Kevin Mooney (315-331-0570, giskard.email@gmail.com)

February 23, 2016 on a cold night in Brighton New York, the Rotary club of Rochester Southeast chartered with Rotary International. It was a great charter night dinner. Leaders came from as near as Brighton to as far as Perry and Bath, New York. Let all Rotarians in District 7120 wish this new club a happy First Anniversary of, "Service Above Self."

The Rotary Club of Rochester Southeast currently has 18 members. They continue to serve where the need is very evident. (Photo courtesy of Lee Loomis).
2017 District 7120 Changeover Dinner Registration

Please join us in honoring DG Tom Rogers and DGE Don Milton!

Date: Monday, June 26                  RSVP Required by: Monday, June 19
Time: Fellowship 5:30 pm               Price Per Person: $50.00
       Dinner 6:30 pm
Location: The Woodcliff Hotel & Spa
          199 Woodcliff Drive
          Fairport NY 14450

Name(s) _______________________________________________________

Club __________________________________________________________

Current or Past Title ___________________________________________

Address _______________________________________________________

Phone ___________________________ E-mail _______________________

Dinner Selections
Enter Quantity for each selection (if more than one person)

     _____ Cayuga Chicken with Provolone Cheese, Seasoned Breading, Tarragon Cream
     Sauce & Herbed Parmesan Fingerling Potatoes
     _____ Maple Bourbon Glazed Salmon with Herbed Parmesan Fingerling Potatoes
     _____ Mushroom Ravioli with Parmesan Cream Sauce

*Dietary Restrictions: ___________________________________________

For additional information contact Iveth Reynolds at: ireynolds@trimar.net

Payment by check to be mailed to:

Payable to: Penfield Rotary Club

Mail to:    Mary Ann Mady
            40 Eaglesfield Way
            Fairport, NY 14450
Rochester Southeast Rotary says, "Let's Learn Social Media Together! 😊😊😊"  
by Past President Dave Bippy Boyer Together!

If novelist Jane Austen were alive today, I'm convinced she would be very curious and perhaps a strong user of Instagram, hashtags, and she’d want to know everything about Social Media. Why? It reaches out to people globally (and cheaply) who want to be heard.

I used to think of Social Media like an old radio 🎙️ or TV 📺. Before, you would tune to your favorite station. And the room would fill with a lot of information, music 🎵🎶, and entertainment.

Well, it's kind of the same thing with Social Media. Try this test… type in #roc into your favorite internet browser. After pressing the Enter or RETURN ↩️ key, be amazed that #roc has become a new way of sharing expressions (very wild and mild) of life around Rochester, New York. You will even see torn up trees from last week's windstorm.

But it gets even better. Radio was a one-way receiver. Producer to listener. Using Instagram, Facebook and Twitter, you can now cheaply communicate with others (maybe more so in 2017) than on the telephone globally! Social Media has become so important that some police departments communicate with the news through updates on Twitter.

My club won the 2016 District 7120 award for First Place use of Social Media. We wish to work with other Rotary clubs and Media Specialist Tom Brown to share tips of what we've learned this past year.

If we have women and men in our clubs that helped put six pairs of Americans on the moon 🌘, then certainly together we can take a look at Social Media and spread the knowledge so that we reach out to a wider range of people 🇺🇸,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,$,
Paul Harris Recognition at Perry
By Daryl Heiby

Dr. Tim DeRuyter (on the right) with his son, receiving the latest Paul Harris Fellow award from Past President Eric Parker at the February 9th Perry Rotary Club meeting.

Canandaigua Awards Paul Harris Fellowship - George Hennen
By Jack Kellogg

At a recent meeting of the Canandaigua Rotary Club George Herren was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship Plus 1. As an active member, he has been a driving force behind the Club’s presence in the July 4th parade, organizes the Adopt-A-Highway program, and constructed a new badge board for Club member’s use. Mr. Herren has been a Club member for over 40 years.

Pictured above is George Herren accepting his award from Club President Ellen Polimeni

Patty Hotchkiss Receives Paul Harris Fellowship
By Jack Kellogg

Pictured at above is Patty Hotchkiss flanked by Rotarians Jeff Anthony and Doug Lowden:

Patty Hotchkiss, a well-known local entrepreneur, was honored with the prestigious Paul Harris Fellowship at a recent Canandaigua Rotary meeting. She has been in the food service industry for eons from a waitress to even her very own Patty’s Place since October of 1996.

Patty’s Place became an eatery where one could catch up on the local lore, catch up with friends whether they were there or not, hear a joke or be the brunt of a joke, sometimes from its good-natured owner.

It wouldn’t be uncommon either to see, and sometimes hear, the camaraderie of policemen, or bankers, or dentists or golfers or tourists. Patty’s Place became a welcome place for anyone. Patty’s Place also became a welcome spot for anyone in need of a free warm meal on Thanksgiving and Christmas. It was also quite common that a vet would stop in for a warm cup of coffee to windup with a free breakfast. Thanks Patty!

Patty somehow found the time to be a committed volunteer at Serenity House providing funds and comfort to families in need. It is also known that many bereaving families received free food in their time of loss. Thanks Patty!

Patty Hotchkiss has touched the hearts of many that have passed through Patty’s Place without any fanfare, and now looks forward to her retirement. She also is looking forward to visiting with her two cute grandsons perhaps more often.
Five Paul Harris Fellows were recognized by the Geneva Rotary Club in special ceremonies at the club’s regular meetings February 22nd and March 1st at the Geneva Country Club. Honored were Shad Cook, president of Halco Energy, Michael Nozzolio, retired New York State Senator, Bill Schickel, general manager of Geneva on the Lake, John Watson, Rotary assistant governor, and Margaret Wiant, director of public relations for the Finger Lakes Visiting Nurse Service.

Dr. Jim Dickson, chairman of the Rotary Paul Harris Committee, conducted the ceremonies. The presentations were a surprise and members of their families and business colleagues joined the recipients after being announced. Attending in the ceremony was District Governor Tom Rogers and Assistant Governor John Watson.

Cook was born and raised in Lyons. He and his wife, Andrea, have three children and live in Geneva. He has been employed by Halco since 1995 and has overseen the Commercial Division since 2007. Active with Geneva Little League and Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes, Cook joined the Geneva Rotary Club in 2014.

Nozzolio, a Seneca Falls native, earned BS and MS degrees from Cornell University and his JD degree from the Syracuse University College of Law. He served in the New York State Legislature as an assemblyman and senator for more than three decades. He retired from the Senate last year, but continues as an attorney with Harris Beach in Rochester. He is a member of the advisory boards of the Cornell College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the Institute for Food Safety at Cornell University. He is an advisory board member emeritus of the Cornell Agriculture and Food Technology Park in Geneva as well as a former member of the Boards of Directors of the Seneca Falls Historical Society and the National Women’s Hall of Fame.

Schickel has been involved with Geneva on the Lake for many years, starting when his father Norbert purchased the abandoned Italian villa and monastery on Lochland Road in 1980. He soon became the general manager and continued in that role when the Audi family of Syracuse, who also owned the Stickley furniture business, purchased Geneva on the Lake in 1995. Over the years, Schickel frequently has donated meals and stays at the resort for Geneva auctions and raffles. He lives in Dryden near Ithaca on a 150-acre farm. Schickel and his wife, Trina, have five children. He has degrees from the University of Notre Dame, Boston College and the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth and has studied art and sculpturing.

Watson, a Geneva native, was educated at DeSales High School and Lamar University in Beaumont, TX. He worked for Levi Strauss & Co. for 30 years in Louisiana, Kansas, Arkansas and Texas before moving back to Geneva 14 years ago. He was assistant manager at Walmart upon his retirement in 2012. Active with Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes, Watson is a member and past president of Geneva Rotary and is in his second year as assistant governor in Rotary District 7120.

Wiant was born in Wellsville and graduated from Cortland High School and State University at Cortland. She and her husband, Tim, have two sons. A founding member of the Romulus Parent Teacher Community, she is the current president of the Romulus Foundation, which supports extra-curricular activities in the Romulus Central School District. She has served on the board of Success for Geneva’s Young Children since 2001 and has been a Geneva Rotarian since 2008.

In its 98-year history, Geneva Rotary has honored 114 Paul Harris Fellows. Of those, 85 have been Rotarians and 29 are non-Rotarians.
A Message from Global Scholar
Alina Urbanic

Alina Urbanic, of Victor, received a $30,000.00 Rotary scholarship to pursue a Master Degree in International Development in Milan, Italy.

Alina writes:
I don’t have too much to report, but I wanted to send you a little update anyway.

I just finished the latest round of exams - three tests for the courses we took in January. It was a very quick term, but we discussed Sharing Economy platforms and the possible roles the public sector can have in them, as well as Economics for Public Decisions - the rationale for taxes, publicly provided health care and education, and pension systems, among other things - and how we can measure and report on performance as public sector organizations. Today we started the next term, with our first new course about Operations Strategy and Management. It’ll be the last term of core courses, and then in March we have the opportunity to specialize a bit and select two concentrations, which will be the last part of the classes of the Master. These will finish in May, and then we will each do an internship or capstone project over the summer.

I had the opportunity to go to one Rotary Milano Ovest meeting in January, before my Italian classes resumed, which unfortunately conflict with their weekly meetings. I hope I can attend an event later this month they’re having on a Saturday - a visit of a Basilica not far from Bocconi’s campus.

This weekend I’m going to Venice just for a day with some classmates to see the first day city’s Carnival celebrations, I’m sure it’ll be quite an experience!

Other than that, things have been fairly quiet (or as quiet as they can be, with our busy schedule).

Please give my best to your fellow Rotarians!

Alina
Newark Rotary Club welcomed Jeff Gould, Co-Founder and Director Market Sales Manager Northeast, Honor Flight, to their February 9th meeting. Gould was presented with a check for $1000. The two-day Honor Flight trip to Washington D.C. to visit the nation’s memorials is free to all honored veterans. Flights are possible through community gifts and contributions.

Pictured above: Newark Rotary President Karen Quartaro presents check to Jeff Gould.

**ARC Director Speaks at Red Jacket**

By Jeff Crawford

Michele Wistner, Director of Development at the Ontario County ARC, presented to the Red Jacket Rotary Club at it's February 7th breakfast meeting. Ms. Wistner emphasized that the focus of Development is to help clients with integration into the community with an emphasis on vocational training. There are 40 programs in place, some in conjunction with Finger Lakes Community College and Hobart - William Smith College. There are a number of homes throughout the Ontario County with up to a thousand persons being serviced.

Michele Wistner, Director of Development at Ontario County ARC, selecting a book to be given to a children's organization.

**Youth Exchange Weekend:**

**March 30 - April 2**

By: Ed Kime

Our annual youth exchange weekend is fast approaching. The District inbound students arrive in Avon, Thursday March 30th at the Village Hall from 5 - 7 pm. Host families will pick up their student at that time. Friday morning they go to Avon Central to check in and then off to R.I.T from 8:30 - 2:30. Their day there is full of many activities. Friday night they are invited to a glow dance at the high school from 8 - 10:30 pm. Saturday at noon they will meet at the high school and then off to bowling in Honeoye Falls until 3 pm. Casino night begins at 7 pm and all Avon Rotarians are invited to visit and lend a hand. The evening ends at 11 pm. Sunday there is a pancake breakfast from 9 - 10:30 am at the Village Hall. Again all Avon Rotarians are invited to join, mingle and visit with the 20 exchange students from around the district.

It’s a busy itinerary and a great time for the kids to bond and have fun together. It’s usually one of their highlights of the year. Many thanks to the 15 Avon host families. We couldn’t do it without them. Also a huge thanks to Cathy Jo Murphy who organized the majority of the weekend behind the scenes. Ernie Wiard has volunteered to cook breakfast once again and his “service above self” is duly noted.

This weekend is made possible by the Avon Rotary Interact Club who fundraises for the event throughout the year. These students spend time together throughout the weekend with the inbound students, making lifelong friendships. Our future Rotarians, leaders, making connections around the world.

Thank you in advance for your support of this important weekend for the kids.
January & February
Rotarians of The Month at Bath
By Elaine Tears

Jane Russell - - recently received the Bath Rotarian of the Month Award for January from Club President Elaine Tears who recognized Russell for her service to the local club, Rotary District 7120, the community, and the world.

Tears noted that in early January Russell hosted the Rotary International District 3040 Governor-Elect, Dr. Zamin Hussain, and his wife, Rashida, from Sonkatch, India. For four days she housed the couple at her Airbnb, fed them in her own home, and took them to sites of interest in Bath, Hammondsport, and Corning. On Saturday night during the visitation period she invited Mike Slovak, Bath Rotarian and District 7120 Governor Nominee, Jo Slovak, and Tears, herself, to dinner at which time all were able to share Rotary projects, activities, and events in their clubs, communities, and countries. Finally, she accompanied the Hussains to Canandaigua where they joined other District 7120 Rotarians and Rotary International District Governors-Elect.

Later in the month Russell traveled with members of the Core Planning Team for the 2019 District 7120 Conference, at which Slovak will preside as District Governor, to a prospective conference site. In addition to participating in the general meetings at the site, she met one-on-one with the site’s catering manager in order to negotiate the cost of the conference meals. On the trip Russell also discussed with President Tears initial plans for the club’s Annual Changeover Dinner in June for which Around the Corner Catering, of which Russell is the owner, will provide the meal.

In addition to these two major events for the month, Russell was also recognized for the following: agreeing to provide a lunch of soup and crackers for a February luncheon in which at least one half of the luncheon charge will be sent to Rotary International for PolioPlus; volunteering to provide a gift basket as an auction item for the District 7120 Assembly to be held in April; attending all luncheon meetings for the month; serving as caterer for these four luncheon meetings.

Al Johnson - - recently received the Bath Rotarian of the Month Award for February from Bath Rotary Club President, Elaine Tears, who recognized Johnson for his continued service to the local club, the community, and the world as well as his participation in club projects, fundraisers, weekly luncheon meetings, and other club events.

President Tears, stated that Johnson has indeed been a most faithful and “behind the scene” member all year and is thus most deserving of this award.”

Tears then noted all of the activities in which Johnson is involved with during the month of February and on a weekly basis. He is also the photographer for the club’s speakers and other special presentations and occasions. He is the club’s Historian, compiles a notebook of Board of Directors’ agendas, luncheon agendas, secretary’s minutes, treasurer’s reports, and newspaper articles.

Johnson served as President in 2006 – 2007, , the Vice-President of the Bath Rotary Foundation Board of Directors, Secretary of the Bath Rotary Student Fund, Inc. and member of the Membership Committee. He is also a Paul Harris Fellow. He also served in the Connecticut Army National Guard from 1961 – 1962 and the U. S. Army Reserves from 1963 – 1967. Having taught history at Haverling Central School for thirty years, retiring in 1994.

Spencerport Rotarians visit School #28
By Colleen Farley

As part of their World Literacy Program, Spencerport Rotarians recently visited School #28 for reading time. Reading to the 2nd graders were Dave DeMers, Ann DeMers, Roger Ressman, Anne Forberg, Tom O’Hare and exchange student Peter Csirmaz. The students were given a book to keep, along with a notebook, pencils,
Penfield Rotarians Audition
High School Vocalists
By Jack Best
Seven Penfield High vocal students recently sang to earn a cash award and a special advantage in scholarship consideration at Roberts Wesleyan College's Music School. Vocal music teacher Rena Monti, left, organized the event, accompanied by Kevin Lieb, center. Singers from right: Sarah Mayfield, Eileah Pye, Alexis Tuccio, Carina Fess, Emily Vanderbilt, Connor Curry and Brandon Ventura. Alexis Tuccio won the prize. She will perform at Rotary’s luncheon at Shadow Lake on March 7.

Waving Hands with Cheers!
By Michele Randall
The Rochester Special Hockey, members of Special Hockey International – a division of USA Hockey, is an organization that specializes in providing training in the game of ice hockey for individuals with developmental disabilities, emphasizing sportsmanship, and learning to interact with others, thus building social skills, athletic skills, and self esteem. Among the many Special Hockey leagues throughout the US, the local team, the Rochester Ice Cats organization, has an active roster of 38 players, ranging in age from 8 years to 40 years. To learn more, go to RochesterSpecialHockey.org.

Volunteer Expert Visits Penfield Rotary
By Jack Best
Maria Thomas Fisher (at left) met with Jack Best (at right) and Penfield Rotarians to discuss how to recruit, motivate and coordinate volunteers. Maria is the parent engagement coordinator for the Rochester City School District. Maria said that volunteers come from all ages. They want to engage in meaningful activities and they like social events also. Several years ago she became the Volunteer Coordinator for Mt. Hope Cemetery. By the time she left, 2,000 volunteers were available to rake leaves, clean up, paint, and more! Maria is completing doctoral studies at D’Youville College in Buffalo. Her dissertation is related to volunteers.
Red Jacket Supports Robotic Project  
By Jeff Crawford

The Red Jacket Rotary Club hosted members of the Red Jacket High School Robotics Team at its February 21st breakfast meeting. Seven team members spoke about their 2016-2017 Robot building endeavor. After completing its building, they participated in a Regional Competition. We supported this project with a $1,000 donation.

Robotics Team members with club member and past club president, Vern Hecker.

Monroe County South Rotary

Monroe County South welcomed Bernadette "Bernie" Bowie from the Salvation Army. Pictured, left to right, are: Latoya Stanley, Ebo Ocran, Bernie Bowie, Amanda Hughes, Deb Hughes, Skip Evon and Ray Ottman.

Local Rotary Peace Fellow Earns Master’s, Ready For Work.  
By Jack Best

Bertin Mboko (at left) met with Rotarians Jack Best (center) and Don Alhart (at right) to discuss how his newly-earned Master’s Degree in Peace and Conflict Resolution can apply to business or not-for-profit situations. Rotary's highly competitive Peace Fellows program allowed Mboko to study at the University of Bradford in England. He earned the degree in December 2016. Mboko moved from Gabon to the United States in 2008, earned his Bachelor's Degree in International Studies at Rochester Institute of Technology in 2013 and became an American citizen in 2013. He speaks French and several African languages.

Monroe County South hosted their third annual bowling fundraiser. Pictured, left to right, are: Latoya Stanley, Martina Ocran, Diane Argauer, Ebo Ocran and Kevin Kinnally.

Camp Good Days and Special Times  
By Daryl Heiby

Pictured at left is Bob Bleier, founder and partner of the Bonadio Financial Services, speaking to the Perry Rotary Club about his involvement in Camp Good Days and Special Times. Bleier is President and Chairman of the Board.
**Victor – Farmington Rotary Club Teams Up With Parks & Recreation**

By David Luitweiler

The Victor-Farmington Rotary Club has teamed up with the Town of Victor Department of Parks & Recreation, in cooperation with the Victor Youth Soccer League, to provide four storage sheds at various town parks in both Victor and Farmington. The sheds provide storage space for items such as flags, portable goals and related soccer gear. The Victor Youth Soccer program has grown significantly in recent years. In 2016 approximately 1,300 local youth from Victor and Farmington participated.

The new storage sheds were built in a cooperative project by the V-F Rotary club, Victor Parks & Recreation and the Victor Youth Soccer program. The Rotary club provided the financing ($1,500.00) for the construction material for the sheds. Parks & Recreation donated the labor cost of approximately $4,000.00. Parks & Recreation employees Keith Maynard, Tim Hadden and Jeff Rader constructed the sheds.

The sheds will be placed at Village on the Park in Victor and Mertensia Park and Pumpkin Hook Park in Farmington.

Pictured above, left to right: Victor Youth Soccer Director Paul Moszak, V-F Club President Jim Crane, V-F Rotarian Galen Powers and Victor Parks & Rec Director Brian Emelson.

In February the project was completed and V-F Rotarians Jim Crane, Galen Powers and Dave Luitweiler joined Parks & Recreation Director Brian Emelson, Victor Youth Soccer Director of Operations Paul Moszak, and Parks & Recreation employees Tim Hadden and Jeff Rader in placing the Rotary insignia on the sheds.

Commenting on the project, Director Emelson stated, “It's great to bring a project together like this from concept to completion involving three agencies; Victor-Farmington Rotary, Victor Soccer and Victor Parks and Recreation.”

**V-F Rotary Club Partners with Library - Road To Literacy**

By David Luitweiler

The Victor-Farmington Rotary Club and the Victor-Farmington Library have initiated a new program to make previously owned books available to individuals and organizations in the Rochester/Finger Lakes area as part of an effort to advance literacy.

The library welcomes gifts of gently used books throughout the year. In the past, most of the books were put in the book sale. The lack of storage place has hampered that effort and the library has looked to other areas of need that can use these books. Many of these books are redistributed soon after the library receives them. The book sale continues to generate revenues for the library but the opportunity to share materials in other ways continues to increase.

By combining the resource of donated book from the library with the institutional contacts of the Rotary club, the program will provide a mechanism for an expeditious and efficient distribution of books at no cost.

The project was implemented in early February when over three hundred books were presented to the Salvation Army of Greater Rochester. Robert Barlow, Media and Community Relations Manager for the Salvation Army in the Rochester/Finger Lakes area, received the books at the Victor-Farmington Library from Timothy Niver, Community Services Librarian, and Victor-Farmington Rotarian John Rugg. Each book had an inner label indicating the book was donated by the Victor – Farmington Library and the Victor – Farmington Rotary Club.

The initial delivery of books will go to the facility operated by the Northwest Corps of the Salvation Army in Rochester. This location operates an extended day care program for single parent mothers and children.
Registration Now Open for Corning Rotary’s 2nd Annual “0.0K Race for Literacy”
By Paula Smith

The Corning Rotary Club invites the community to register for the second annual “0.0K Race for Literacy” to be held Friday, March 31, 2017 at the Southeastern Steuben County Library, Nasser Civic Center Plaza, Corning, NY. Bib pickup and pre-race refreshments will be available beginning at 6:00 p.m. The race starts at 6:30 p.m., with the post-race party-including food, beverages and a cash bar—immediately following.

Please visit runreg.com/corningrotary to register for this fun event while at the same time supporting a worthy cause. Registration fee is $25 for adults 19 and over, or $10 for youth 13-18. Children under 13 are free, but must be accompanied by an adult. Strollers are welcome. The first 100 registrants will receive exclusive 0.0K-branded swag.

Proceeds will benefit the Corning Rotary Club’s Literacy Initiative. Beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, the Club “adopted” the incoming Kindergarten class at Corning’s Winfield Street Elementary School. Over the course of three years, each student is receiving one book a month to keep, helping to develop a love for reading along with skills in speech, communication, logical thinking, language, improved concentration, and focus.

You can be a part of building a strong future for these students by registering for this unique event. For more information, please email: rotary0k@gmail.com or call (607) 936-3713 X 205.

Join the Community of Greece to Stop Hunger Now

On Saturday, April 1, 2017, the Greece Rotary Club will host a Greece Community meal packing event at the Greece Assembly of God on Long Pond Road. Stop Hunger Now will deliver the ingredients and supplies and provide on-site guidance. Volunteers will work in teams to put together small meal packages consisting of rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and nutritional supplements.

With the help of 300 volunteers from local civic groups, faith congregations, schools, and businesses, we will pack 60,000 meals to feed starving children in developing countries around the world. With the help of our sponsors and people like you, we will raise $18,000 to support our event. The Greece Rotary Club has contributed the first $3,000.

Stop Hunger - (continued):

Stop Hunger Now, is a non-profit international organization focused on ending hunger in our lifetime. They distribute meals through partner organizations in developing countries. The feeding programs promote education, encourage children to attend school, improve students’ health and nutrition, stimulate economic growth, and fight child labor.

We’ll also address in hunger in our own community. On April 1, we’ll collect items for local food cupboards serving struggling families in our community.

You can make a difference:

♦ Volunteer for a two hour shift on April 1 and participate in our fun-filled event. Join others from local civic groups, congregations, schools, and businesses to help pack meals. Come as a team or on your own. Adults & school age children are welcome. Register at http://Events.StopHungerNow.org/GreeceRC2017

♦ Promote this team building activity to your friends, family, congregation, youth or school group, and others. Go to http://GreeceRotary.org for a copy of the event brochure.

♦ Help cover the cost of the meals you will pack during your shift by making a personal donation at http://Events.StopHungerNow.org/GreeceRC2017 or asking friends, family and co-workers to sponsor you. Go to http://GreeceRotary.org for a copy of the event brochure to track your contributions.

♦ Bring non-perishable food items to the event on April 1st between 9 AM and 3 PM. They will be donated to local food shelves here in Greece.

Questions? Contact us by email: StopHunger@GreeceRotary.org
Event Chair Rita Garretson 732 6569

Visit with Rochester Rotarians at the Home and Garden Show
March 25th & March 26th
And purchase some Raffle Tickets
For the Benefit of
Students of the Month honored by Watkins-Montour Rotary
By Charlie Haefner

Odessa-Montour High School senior Kyle Frasier was honored by the Watkins-Montour Rotary Club as its Odessa-Montour Student of the Month for January. Frasier was introduced by teacher Russ Gardner, who said the honoree - a High Honor student, a member of the school swim team and a member of "outside organizations like the Future Farmers of America" - has a "positive outlook" that makes him "the kind of student that teachers love to have in the classroom, the kind of student we want in our schools, the kind of person other students want on their team." Frasier, who works on the Hoffman farm, hopes to have his own farm one day. He is undecided about college, but said that if he goes, it will be to Morrisville State for its agricultural program.

Watkins Glen High School senior Phebe Wickham was honored by the Watkins-Montour Rotary Club as its Watkins Glen High School Student of the Month for January. Wickham was introduced by teacher Maggie Field, who lauded the honoree's dedication and skill in video production at the school and her participation in school plays, as a photographer for the yearbook, and as a lifeguard. Wickham, a member of National Honor Society, a High Honor student and a self-taught piano and ukulele player, hopes to attend college in the East to study film, a field she says she loves.

Odessa-Montour High School senior Alyssa Crout was honored by the Watkins-Montour Rotary Club as its Odessa-Montour Student of the Month for February. Crout was introduced by teacher/coach Greg Gavich, who described the honoree as "tough as nails" and "a very good student who takes her studies seriously." He said she is involved in numerous service organizations "and is president of virtually all of them," and is a member of Student Council and Interact, and vice-president of the Senior Class. (continued)

Alyssa Crout - (continued):

She is a three-sport athlete -- volleyball, basketball and softball -- and an Honor Roll student. She plans to attend Corning Community College and enter the field of Nursing.

Watkins Glen High School senior Rong Lin was honored by the Watkins-Montour Rotary Club as its Watkins Glen High School Student of the Month for February. He was introduced by teacher Kelsey Wood, who said the honoree -- who came to this country from China four years ago and has been in her history classes for the past two years -- is "the most incredibly hard-working student" and has "been learning English while learning American history, American culture and American figures of speech ... He values learning in a way that is very unique." She said he is also on the varsity swim team, whose other members "love having him" there. "It has been a real privilege" having him as a student, she added, noting: "He is an amazing young man" who will do well in the world, and "is a true asset to the community." He plans to attend college in New York State.

Bloomfield Rotary Honors students at Bloomfield High School
By Pat Overmoyer

The students honored are chosen for their scholarship, citizenship, community service and leadership. They are nominated by their teachers and the principal Principal Dan McAlpin.

Pictured above, left to right: Principal Dan McAlpin, Julia Darling, Courtney Cooper, Lillian Nelson, Ceara Stewart, Matt Schroeter, Nick Bober.

(continued on Page 19)
Bloomfield Students - (continued):

**September’s honoree** is **Ceara Stewart**. Ceara is a member of the Interact Club, the National Honor Society and the Yearbook Committee. She enjoys working at the Horse Farm giving riding lessons, and has spent summers working at Shivers & Shakes. In her spare time she volunteers with her church group supporting blood drives and fundraising dinners, and works as a historian at the Bloomfield Historical Society. She plans to attend college to study Biomedical Engineering. Her chosen charity is the Golisano Children’s Hospital because she feels it gives sick kids their best chance at recovery.

**October’s honoree** is **Lillian Nelson**. Lillian is currently involved in this year’s Bloomfield Central School (BCS) musical “Beauty and the Beast”. She is an officer of the National Honor Society and the Interact Club. She participates in varsity soccer and varsity track. She has worked at Dunkin Donuts and is active in the youth group at the West Bloomfield Congregational Church. She plans to attend college to study Communication and Journalism. Her chosen charity is the American Cancer Society because her mom was diagnosed with cancer in August.

**November’s honoree** is **Julia Darling**. Julia is a member of the Interact Club. When she isn’t prepping and scanning documents for her job, she is dancing at Fitzsimmons Dance Factory in Perinton, especially enjoying ballet, tap and hip-hop. Her chosen charity is the Wounded Warrior Project because many of her family and friends are in the military and she would like to help them.

**December’s honoree** is **Matthew Schroeter**. Matt recently returned from a school sponsored trip to Cuba with some other classmates. He has been involved with the BCS Drama Club and is currently part of this year’s stage crew. He is on the soccer team and track team. He spends much of his free time helping his mom with their church youth group. He plans to attend college to major in Biomedical Engineering or Computer Science. His chosen charity is the Child Advocacy Center of the Finger Lakes because it’s a local charity and doesn’t spend a lot of money on advertising.

**January’s honoree** is **Nicholas Bober**. Nick has been involved with the tech crew for BCS drama productions, and is a member of the bowling and golf teams. He is a long term Boy Scout and has achieved his Eagle rank. He is also extensively involved in the Venture Crew, having served both as President and Treasurer. He has volunteered 4 summers as a lifeguard at Babcock Hovey Boy Scout Camp. He also works at Lazy Acres Alpacas. He plans to attend RIT, majoring in Graphic Design. His chosen charity is the Blessing Room because he has worked several food drives for the Blessing Room and sees their need. He noted that food expires, but money doesn’t.

**January’s BOCES honoree** is **Courtney Cooper**. Courtney has a passion for animals and spends much of her time with them, studying Animal Science (continued)

Bloomfield Students - (continued):

at the Wayne Technical Career Center. She has also worked at Hometown Pizza for several years. She plans to attend SUNY Canton. Her chosen charity is the Ontario County Humane Society because of her love for animals.
Give me a Z, an I, a T and an I .... what does it spell?  ZITI! ZITI!!

By Judie VanBramer

And that spells Success for Greece Rotarians as they officially started the 40th annual Italian Festa Dinner on February 12th at the Diplomat Party House. Over 1,600 dinners were served, along with drawings, bake sales and rose sales. Interact students from two high schools were on hand to help along with all Club members. “Purple Pinkies for Polio” found the students painting purple nail polish on an attendee’s pinkie finger, in the same process used by Rotarians working to immunize children throughout the world-identifying who has been treated with vaccine. Ralph Annucci, Chair of the event, reports that close to $40,000 will be raised this year.

While Ziti is the main event for the Greece Rotary Italian Festa Dinner, dessert brings the delicious-ness to the meal. The Bakery crew, proudly showing off the sweets available for purchase, includes, left to right, Rotarians Brenda Herman, Pam Leathersich, Anna Capolina, Diane Hennekey and Deborah Whitt.

Victor-Farmington Rotary Club Hosts State Police K9 Program

By David Luitweiler

At a recent meeting of the Victor - Farmington Rotary Club the New York State Police presented a program on the use of police canines. The State Police K9 unit is the largest police K9 unit in the country. Club members watched a demonstration by Trooper Vince Abate and his canine partner Gerry. State Police K9s are used to detect explosives, drugs or illegal substances. Gerry is an explosive detection dog. Prior to bringing Gerry into the room Trooper Abate hid a cloth with the scent of explosives in the room. When Gerry was brought into the room she quickly made an examination of the room and found the cloth.

Pictured above, left to right: Rotarian Kim Yourch, Trooper Vince Abate, Gerry, and Club President Jim Crane

Trooper Abate answered a large number of questions from the assembled Rotarians about the K9 program. Gerry is a 3 year old female Belgian Malinois. As with all State Police K9s she is named after a deceased trooper. The Belgian Malinois is a popular breed with law enforcement, military and security agencies. A Belgian Malinois was with the US Navy Seal Team 6 when they attacked Osama Bin Laden's compound. The US Secret Service uses the breed to guard the grounds of the White House.

Trooper Abate advised the Rotarians that State Police K9s remain in service until they reach eight years of age. At age eight they are evaluated and, if approved, serve one more year. At age nine they are retired and reside with their handler.

When asked about some of Gerry’s recent exploits, Trooper Abate advised she was used at the scene of a double homicide in the Corning area and was able to locate the murder weapon.

As a reward for her performance, the Victor-Farmington Rotary club presented Gerry with a package of dog treats.
Publicity Campaign for Camp Onseyawa
By John Kenny, Board Member

The Board of your camp Onseyawa has been working on building a publicity campaign so that we can be better able to attract the attention of potential funders, campers and staff.

Our camp is free to the children that attend. Our budget is just over $100,000 and it is fully fund raised every year. We have seen how important a strong web presence, good social media participation and a consistent appearance in the local newspapers/radio entities can positively affect our effort to keep providing this camp for Free.

We need your help. The idea can’t work without building the number of people that are interested in what we are doing. The publicity committee is asking Rotarians, parents, past campers and staff to help us reach a much larger group of followers. Please ask your friends, business associates and family members to like us on Facebook, and follow us on Pinterest. You will be doing a very nice thing for your friends. You will be seeing relevant and enjoyable information on a regular basis. It’s really heartwarming to see pictures of our camp, and hear about all the wonderful things that happen.

We have selected Facebook, Pinterest, twitter, etc. They never have to post on behalf of the camp but who knows, this could be the introduction to something very important to this friend or family member. This new follower will be made aware of the needs for new campers, staff members and how they could help with our fundraising activities across the four counties.

We have another very specific goal. Even if you can’t think of someone who should be our friend, you can still help greatly if you share the fact that community members in the four counties of Ontario, Seneca, Yates and Wayne can designate Rotary Camp Onseyawa as their designated agency so that their contribution to the United Way goes directly to the camp.

It is real simple to help. Just add the contact information of this future or present support of camp and email it back:

Name ________________________________
Phone Number __________________________
Email __________________________________

Email to John Kenny - canalsidejohn@yahoo.com

To All Golfers
Save-the-Date
Friday, September 8, 2017
District 7120 Golf Tournament
Island Oaks Course
Lima Country Club, Lima, NY
Tickets can be purchased from any Geneseo Rotary Club member or by contacting the Club President Tim Hayes timhayes@genesecsd.org

AVON ROTARY BLUE JEAN BALL
Kickin’ Up For Hands That Help

Saturday, May 13th, 2017 @ 5:00 PM
Dinner 6:00—7:00
Avon Century Barn ~ 1177 W. Henrietta Rd. Avon
Live Music, BBQ, Games, Prizes, Raffle & Auction
Tickets $35 pp. Purchase online: www.avonrotarybluejeanball.com
You are cordially invited
to a Special Dinner
sponsored by the
Webster Rotary Club
for
The Rotary Charities

Friday, May 5, 2017
Cinco de Mayo Theme-
Knights of Columbus
70 Barrett Drive, Webster, New York
Donation $100.00

Open Bar 6:00 p.m.  Dinner 7:00 p.m.

Please RSVP dinner reservation by April 28th to
gauccht@rochester.rr.com or cell (585) 734-0781

Saturday, April 22, 2017
6:00pm - 11:00pm
Diplomat Banquet Center
1956 Lyell Avenue
Rochester, New York

$50 per person - $450 per table of 10
Tax deductible portion $28.82

RSVP by April 8, 2017
e-mail vazquez@rochester.rr.com to RSVP

Formal Attire Requested

We invite you to join us as an event sponsor. All
sponsors will be recognized at the event, in our
program book and on our social media pages.

Contact Dr. Miriam Vázquez at:
vazquez@rochester.rr.com
Upcoming DISTRICT Events

March 2017
- March 17th-18th - Empire Multi District President Elect Training Seminar (PETS) - Syracuse
- March 26th - Foundation Brunch (see page 4)

April 2017
- April 8th - District Training Assembly - Newark High School
- April 8th - Grant Management Seminar (Renewal) - Newark High School
- April 8th - District Training Assembly - Newark (See page 3)

May 2017
- May 19th-21st - District Conference 2017 - Erie, PA

June 2017
- June 10th -14th - Rotary International Convention, Atlanta, GA
- June 26th District Changeover Dinner - Woodcliff Lodge - Welcome Don Milton as Governor (see page 7)

Upcoming CLUB Events

March 2017
- March 18th - Newark’s Pancake Breakfast - 7:30 AM to Noon - Newark High School
- March 25th - Geneseo’s March Music Madness - Geneseo Riviera Theater - 7:30 PM - (see page 22)

(continued)

March 2017
- March 25, 2017 at 7:00 PM - Music of the Decades Choral Concert to Celebrate 100 Years of The Rotary Foundation - Watkins Glen High School (see page 21).
- March 31st - Corning’s 0.0K Race for Literacy - (see page 17)

April 2017
- April 1st - Seneca Falls Rotary’s 5th Annual Chocolate Extravaganza - 4 PM to 7 PM, Holiday Inn Waterloo/Seneca Falls (see page 11)
- April 1st - Greece Community Event to Stop Hunger - (see page 17)
- April 2nd (Sunday) - Canandaigua Rotary Family Festa Italiana - 11:30 AM to 4:00 PM at Kings Catering - (See page 22)
- April 20th - “Spring Fling” Elmira Heights Annual Spring Fundraiser - First Prize: $150 2nd Prize: $300 3rd Prize $200 - $50 includes: Raffle Ticket, Appetizers, Beer, Wine; $25 Raffle ticket - Roundin’ 3rd Regal Restaurant, 2447 Corning Road (Miracle Mile) Elmira, NY
- April 22nd (Saturday) - Rochester Latino’s 8th Annual Dinner Dance Masquerade Ball, 6:00pm - 11:00pm; Diplomat Banquet Center, 1956 Lyell Avenue, Rochester, New York. (see page 23)

May 2017
- May 5th - Webster Rotary for The Rotary Charities Cinco de Mayo Theme - 6:00 PM - Knights of Columbus in Webster. (See Page 23).

June 2017
- June 4th - Wayland Rotary’s Cash Raffle - (See Page 22).

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