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The ROTARY CLUB of MORRIS, NY

Chartered February, 1938 Charter #4887
Jeffrey Conroe, President Lana Rouff, Governor
District 7170



2008-2009 Rotary Theme

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Number 34

Meetings every Monday at 6:00 PM in the Town House, Morris, NY

Last Meeting – March 9, 2009

The regular weekly meeting at the Morris Town House was called to order by President **Jeffrey Conroe**. The corned beef and cabbage meal for 19 Rotarians and guests was prepared by **Juanita Brown**. **Royce Webster** drew the Jack of Clubs in the Ace of Hearts drawing. **Harry Graves** reflected back to May 19, 1993 when he participated in the National Immunization Day in the Philippines. Rotarians and health professionals moved throughout the country to administer polio vaccine. **Mary Breuninger** will give next week's Rotary Moment.

Guests — McKenzie Ballard attended our meeting with her mother.

Make-Ups — We received a stack of make-up cards from Florida. They came from clubs visited by **Neil Townsend** (4) in Hudson and **Jim Pasternak** (2) in Zephyrhills.

Announcements — **Dick Keene** reported that all the citrus fruit was picked up within 24 hours. When all money has been collected he estimates the club will realize between \$1,600-\$1,700 from the annual sale. --- **Lois Miller-Ballard** promoted the mid-winter bash as Norwich's Canasawacta County Club on Friday, March 27. She's still taking reservations. She encouraged members to bring their family and friends by saying, "We'll take anybody." The price is \$35 per person for dinner, dancing, and a one-hour open bar. --- Members noted that Schenectady radio station WGY is airing commercials promoting Rotary.

Birthdays & Anniversaries — None.

Happiness — **Gerry Bourgeois** told of his retired farmer friends who sold at auction a rare baseball card of John Montgomery Ward. The card of the 1880s player fetched \$200,000. --- **Mary Breuninger's** sister underwent recent medical treatment but is recovering now. --- **Dick Breuninger** reflected on the North American YEP meeting he attended with his counterparts from Mexico and Canada. --- **Jeff Conroe's** son Luke is an industrial engineering major. He has been asked to demonstrate a

device for the handicapped that he designed and built. The competition carries a \$5,000 first prize. President Jeff also noted that Blue Seal Feeds has laid off two more employees. --- **Harry Graves** installed a rural mailbox by the steps so the mailman won't have to climb onto his porch. It's a bit over-engineered but it is sturdy. --- **Fred Johnson** says MRC was held up as an example of clubs adding new Rotarians. PDG Fred was attending the membership seminar for clubs in the Stamford area. --- **Dick Keene** thanked Rotarians Gerry, Bill, and Patrick for their help. They made short work of the incoming fruit delivery. Royce was the top salesman. --- **Maureen Kranbuhl** thanked Juanita for another great dinner. She had prepared her annual Irish feast. --- **Bill Pickens** noted that Harry Lisle spent the week-end splitting firewood. It was his "celebration" for turning 85. --- **Royce Webster**: Just happy!

Program — President Jeff called for discussion topics from the floor. No issues were presented. It was a very short meeting and the directors' meeting started early.

This Week – March 16, 2009

Words are magic. And power. And emotion. Edmeston Rotarian **Christine Lindberg** takes us "up close and personal" with the words that make it into the Oxford Dictionary. Thanks of **John Matteson** for suggesting this program.

Next Week – March 23, 2009

"Working to make things better in the Butternut Valley" is one of the missions of the Butternut Valley Alliance. Stacia Norman and Bob Eklund will give us the details.

Neighbors — Members of the **Sidney Rotary Club** spent last Saturday flipping pancakes. It was the club's 56th annual pancake breakfast, one of the district's longest-running club fundraising projects. --- **Cortland Rotary** celebrates the rich agricultural heritage of Cortland County at its regular meeting noon on Tuesday March 17. --- Make arrangements to attend the annual District Conference at the Binghamton Regency Hotel on May 1-3.

Active Members

Bosco, Sharon *
Bourgeois, Gerard *
Breuninger, Mary *
Brown, Juanita *
Burdick, William
Conroe, Jeffrey +
D'Amico, Michael +
DeLaurentiis, Teresa
Frankel, George +
Fusco, Nancy *
Graves, Harry *
Hay, Ronald *
Johnson, Fred *
Johnson, Gary *
Keene, Richard *
Kranbuhl, Maureen
Lander, Robert +
Marlier, Felice *
Matteson, John *
Meyers, Matthew
Miller, Joan
Miller, Roger *
Miller-Ballard, Lois *
Panek, Nicole
Pasternak, James *
Pegg, Patrick
Phillips, CarrieLynn +
Pickens, William *
Rehrmann, Henry *
Schwarzans, Fred
Schwarzans, Marg
Tiffany, Norman *
Townsend, Neil *
Virgil, Michael *
Webster, Royce *

YEP Students

DeForest, Chelsea
From G-MU to India
Endo, Thais Sayuri
From Brazil to MCS
Meyers, Kaitlin
From MCS to Belgium

Honoraries

Danielson, Walter *
Halbert, Ronald *
Norton, Bruce *
Sorensen, Herbert
Stowell, William *
Walicka, Terry *

* Paul Harris Fellows
+ Sustaining Members

Send Newsletter Items To
Harry Graves, Editor
skierharry@yahoo.com

Next In Rotary Service: March Is Rotary International's Literacy Month

YEP Report

Good News From Belgium

Morris Rotary sponsored two young ambassadors to study abroad this year. Recently, Chelsea DeForest sent an update from Surat, India. This week, we hear from Belgium where Kate Meyers has taken up residence.

I have just finished with my Krokusvakantie! This is what we would simply call our February break! I didn't do anything particularly special. Just being in Belgium is special enough for me!! I stayed in Gent and did a lot of things with friends and my host family! Everything is going great! Now I know what all of the Rotarians were talking about when they said that when you're coming to the second half of the year, everything starts to fall into place and run smoothly. Then, it just keeps going up and up!

When I first moved into my second host family, I experienced a bit of my first homesickness. I think it was because, first of all, it was just another change for me. And having to get to know and adjust to a new family and rules. But also, they spoke to me in Dutch ALL of the time!!! I didn't have this problem in the first host family because they were always speaking English with me (which made my progress much slower). I didn't have to deal so much with the language barrier until my second host family! I can tell that in these past few months my Dutch has improved incredibly! Now, I really love the host family that I'm staying with! I finally have siblings - a brother (15) and a sister (13). They are a lot of fun!

School just started up Monday and it's going well! I can finally follow the lesson really wellso now I'm starting to study and have homework. (It isn't exactly pleasant ...but it's a big step for my language.)

As of news in Belgium, something very interesting happened last week. Since 9-11, aircrafts that no longer have communication in the air are considered a possible threat. About a week or two ago, a plane took flight and lost contact in the air. The base sent two F-16s after it to make sure that it wasn't a threat and to guide it back to the base. In the process, the F-16s had typed the wrong frequency into the device. When they broke the sound barrier, there was a huge bang throughout a big chunk of Belgium. Damage was caused in Brugges. The F-16s broke the sound barrier over the town Brugges ... but even people in Gent heard the loud noise that it caused. In Brugges, it caused two accidents and people had to evacuate a certain area because of the air movement and lightning that it caused.

Today was 100 dagen in school!!! It was planned a little bit late because there are already less than one hundred days of school left. We had to be at school at 9 o'clock this morning and the whole day was a fun day. First, we had a quiz where every class in the 6th year played against each other. Then, we had a Marginal Bal! That is a ball where everyone wears the ugliest clothes that they can find. There was also a barbeque! Delicious!! The sun is finally starting to shine here again ...but it has been ICE cold the past few days!

On March 12th, I was invited to go to a piano recital in the opera here. The recital is something put on by the Gent Rotary to raise money!

On the 16th of March I have to do a presentation to the Rotary here ...in Dutch ...about America and the things I have done and what I have learned about in Belgium. I'm a little bit nervous. I think it will be okay!

Kate

Rotary International

Dolly Parton, Rotary Tackle Early Childhood Reading

Another big-name star is teaming with Rotary to reach millions in need. The latest collaboration was announced last week on the Rotary website.

By Ryan Hyland

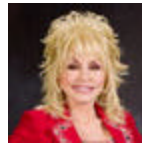
Rotary International News-- 9 March 2009

On 6 March, country music legend Dolly Parton and Rotary International announced a collaborative relationship to begin a new chapter in promoting early childhood reading.

Under the agreement, Rotary clubs in Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States are encouraged to support the Dollywood Foundation's Imagination Library, which provides a book each month to children from birth until age five.

Local Rotary club participation could include promoting the program within the community, helping to identify and register the children, and paying for the books and mailings.

Citing its impressive role in the polio eradication effort, Parton is proud to have Rotary on her foundation's side, she says.



"This partnership is a marriage made in heaven," says Parton. "Rotary does such good work around the world. This is a big deal for us. We feel proud and honored to be working with such a prestigious organization."

In a public ceremony in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, Rotary Foundation Trustee John Germ joined Parton onstage to make the announcement in front of more than 500 people.

"Our partnership with Parton's foundation will bring tremendous improvement in children's literacy," says Germ, a member of the Rotary Club of Chattanooga, Tennessee. "Dolly is the perfect spokeswoman for promoting early childhood reading."

Parton's impoverished childhood and her father's illiteracy inspired the country singer to create a literacy program in 1996 for preschool children in her native Sevier County, Tennessee.

The Imagination Library spread quickly. Today, it serves 47 states, along with parts of Canada and the United Kingdom, and has provided children with more than 15 million books.

"I love books. Anytime I have spare time, I'm reading a book," says Parton. "My father lived long enough to see this program become a success and was so proud people called me 'the Book Lady.'"

According to the Dollywood Foundation, research shows that preschoolers exposed to reading are more likely to look forward to starting school, do well in class, read at or above grade level, finish high school, and go on to college.

Source: www.rotary.org.