



Esquivalence?

Serving Residents of the Butternut Valley Since 1938

# The ROTARY CLUB of MORRIS, NY

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

Volume 70

March 23, 2009

Number 36

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



2008-2009 Rotary Theme

## Last Meeting – March 16, 2009

The regular weekly meeting at the Morris Town House was called to order by President **Jeffrey Conroe**. The roast pork meal for 25 Rotarians and guests was prepared by **Juanita Brown** and Vicky Pegg. In the Ace of Hearts drawing, **Harry Graves** drew the Five of Clubs. **Mary Breuninger** gave some behind-the-scenes info about the district-level YEP operations. **Nancy Fusco** will give next week's Rotary Moment.

**Guests** — Edmeston member **Scott Porter** escorted speaker and fellow Rotarian **Christine Lindberg**. Sophie Gary accompanied her favorite grandmother while Mary Schneider attended with her daughter.

**Make-Ups** — None this week.

**Announcements** — **Lois Miller-Ballard** issued another reminder about the mid-winter bash at Norwich's Canasawacta County Club on Friday, March 27. She gave an update and said she's still accepting reservations. Family members and friends are welcome to attend. The price is \$35 per person for dinner, dancing,

and a one-hour open bar. --- **Mike D'Amico** will act as chairman of the committee for the annual chicken and biscuit dinner to support the scouting programs. The event will be held at the Morris United Methodist Church on Tuesday, April 21. The club will have a work night on April 20 to prepare for the dinner. Mike's committee will be meet within the next week to set a price and publicity plan for the fund-raiser. --- **Gary Johnson** will head the Auction Committee. The event date has been set for May 15. His committee will meet soon. --- **Bill Burdick** will chair the Golf Tournament Committee. The event date has been set for May 30. --- **Dick Keene** says the total profit for the citrus fruit sale will hit \$1,709. Thanks to everyone's help to make this project a success. --- There has been a revision on the date of the Cub Scout trout fishing derby. It's now Saturday, April 4. The organizers need funds and volunteer workers. --- There will be a brief Board of Directors' meeting following the March 23 meeting to discuss recent developments.

**Birthdays & Anniversaries** — None.

## 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

## YEP Report

# Chelsea DeForest In Colorful India



Morris Rotary sponsored two ambassadors to study abroad this year. Chelsea DeForest represents Gilbertsville-Mount Upton Central School in Asia. Kate Meyers graduated from Morris High School and headed to Europe. This time, Chelsea sends greetings from the central Indian city of Surat.

*I've been busy doing random but awesome trips and tours, holidays, and hanging out with my new friends! The other day, I was counting down the days I have left in India and now it's in the double digits! I don't want to leave India! India is absolutely beautiful! And I love to brag that it's getting to be almost 100 degrees Fahrenheit already!*

*I've recently been getting ready for the holiday*

*called Dhulati, (aka Holi), known as "The Festival of Colors. People stand on the terraces of their buildings (or on the streets) throwing water-filled balloons with food coloring in them at people. I'm really excited because everything is going to be bright colors.*

*I have a South India tour coming up here on March 17th until April 1st. I'll be visiting the cities Bangalore, Mysore, Allepy, Munar, and Goa!!! I'm really excited for Goa because I haven't had beef in over 6 months. Luckily, they have it because that's where a LOT of tourists have house flats. I will write ASAP when I come back from my South India Tour, full of pictures and a wonderful story.*

Chelsea

Next In Rotary Service: Attend the District Assembly at SUCO's Morris Hall on April 4

**Happiness** — **Mary Breuninger** saw Joan Stowell recently. The “snowbirds” are planning to have their annual “meeting” on Tuesday, April 24. They will be returning to the Mount Dora restaurant where they went last year. --- **Juanita Brown** said it was good to have “legal” neighbors. She was referring to Patrick and Vicky getting a Certificate of Occupancy for their new house. --- **Mike D’Amico** says 12 “throwers” showed up for the start of track practice, a group almost as large as the number of runners. --- **Harry Graves** was saddened by the news that radio broadcaster Don Imus has been stricken with prostate cancer. He was pleased, however, that the personality chose to share the information with his radio audience as a warning to other men. --- **Fred Johnson** pitched an upcoming show of “Little Eva” which will be presented this summer in Milford and Cooperstown. The murder-mystery, based on a 1934 crime, was adapted for the stage by son of Milford Rotarian Tom Rathbone. (In a later e-mail, Fred explained MRC’s ties to the play. *The book, “Eva Coe Murderess” really alerts veteran Morris Rotarians because it was written in 1997 by Milford Rotarian, Niles Eggleston, who did a program on the book around the time it was published. The play, “Little Eva,” was written by Isaac Rathbone, son of Milford Rotarian, Tom Rathbone, also an occasional visitor to Morris RC. Of additional interest is the setting, not far from Milford’s Crumhorn Mountain, and the trial which took place in the Otsego County Court House in Cooperstown. Hence the excitement over staging the play at the courthouse in late June.*) --- **Lois Miller-Ballard** ate at Sidney Rotary’s annual pancake breakfast. She also congratulated Thais on her fine performance in the MCS musical. --- **Scott Porter** is glad to enjoy the fellowship of neighboring Rotarians. He’s the Edmeston club president. --- **Royce Webster** loves our warming weather. “Spring is on the way!”

### **This Week – March 23, 2009**

Stacia Norman and Bob Eklund of the Butternut Valley Alliance hope their new organization can help energize local projects. We’ll find out how they hope to achieve it.

### **Community Service**

## **You Can Help Other Groups**

Support the organizations serving food this weekend and next. We want their support for Rotary’s event next month

**Saturday, March 21** — Soup sampler at the New Life Fellowship Hall of the Baptist Church. 11:30 AM to 1 PM. Grilled cheese sandwiches and home-made pies are on the menu.

**Friday, March 27** — Meatloaf supper at Gilbertsville First Presbyterian. Take-outs available at 4 PM while the sit-down dinner begins at 5 PM. Free-will offering.

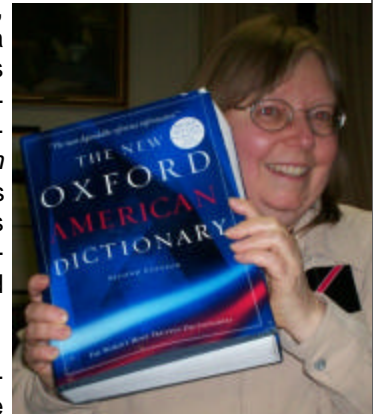
**Saturday, March 28** — Pancake breakfast at the Morris United Methodist Church. 8 AM to noon. Free-will offering.

**Saturday, March 28** — Spaghetti supper at the Gilbertsville American Legion. 5 – 7 PM. Free-will offering. To support Boy Scout Troop 44.

**Program** — Edmeston Rotarian **Christine Lindberg** is a senior American lexicographer for the Oxford University Press (OUP). She previously lived in Connecticut but now resides in the peace and quiet of Edmeston. She uses modern technology to do her research from her home office.

She gave a humorous presentation to show how she has incorporated local references into the illustrations of the highly respected *New Oxford American Dictionary (NOAD)*, including a reference to the Edmeston Panthers sports teams.

According to Lindberg, NOAD contains about a quarter-million definitions and entries. (Another division of the company produces the *Oxford English Dictionary*. She says OED’s headword count alone is probably close to a half million.) NOAD is revised about every 3-4 years with thousands of updates and new words. The OUP website further describes the



book’s purpose. *As an academic press, OUP takes its mission as “Lexicographers to the World” very seriously. Its cornerstone dictionary, the OED, is the preeminent authority on world English, as well as the final word in etymological analysis. All of Oxford’s American English dictionaries are rooted in this same authoritative tradition.*

Lindberg and the Oxford University Press made national headlines in 2005 with the word “esquivalence”. *The New Yorker* magazine referred to the word as a fake and wrote a lengthy account explaining why. The possibility of a fake word created a stir because the OED claims to print “the world’s most trusted dictionaries”. To this day, the internet will direct you to numerous articles about the word, many mentioning Lindberg’s name.

A Google search shows Ms. Lindberg as being the author of several books, including *The Oxford American Writer’s Thesaurus*. When asked about her role as an author, she responded *Yes, these are mine. The Writer’s Thesaurus is my favorite, and has done so well, and has been reviewed so highly, that I only wish I got royalties! But, alas, I am but the property of a university press (i.e., nonprofit), so I must be content with my nonprofit paycheck (ouch).*

*Most of my titles you would not find by my name, because of how the staff pages are interpreted by the Library of Congress. I’ve done at least 80 dictionaries & thesauruses, so I’ll not attempt to give you a list. But this I can say: every Oxford dictionary or thesaurus of American English published since the end of the 1990s is mine. (Now do you see why I must fight daily for my sanity?)*

Thanks, again, to **John Matteson** for suggesting a great program.