



Hellbender Salamander
Is the two-footer in the pure waters of Butternut Creek?

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



2008-2009 Rotary Theme

Volume 70

March 30, 2009

Number 37

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

Last Meeting – March 23, 2009

The regular weekly meeting at the Morris Town House was called to order by President **Jeffrey Conroe**. The meal for 22 Rotarians and guests was prepared by **Juanita Brown** and Vicky Pegg. We had a winner in the Ace of Hearts drawing. **Juanita Brown** pocketed \$24. **Nancy Fusco** reported that the club has donated \$3,075 to various community organizations so far this year, has set aside \$1,035 for the Youth Exchange Program, and plans to spend \$1,850 on student activities in addition to a host of routine and administrative club expenditures. **Fred Schwarzans** will give next week's Rotary Moment.

Guests — Beth Keene attended our meeting with her father. **Dick Breuninger** (Oneonta) was the only visiting Rotarian.

Make-Ups — **Sharon Bosco** attended a meeting in Jupiter, FL.

Announcements — The members set the prices for the upcoming chicken and biscuit dinner at \$7 per adults and \$5 for children under 12. Chairman **Mike D'Amico** reminded everyone to supply two pies for dessert. --- **Lois Miller-Ballard** reminded everyone to get their money in for this Friday's social event at

the Canasawacta Country Club. --- **Mike Virgil** has issued a call for RYLA applications. He would like to have them completed by Friday (March 27) with interviews, if necessary, on Wednesday, April 1 at 5:30 PM. Dick, Felice, and Mike D volunteered to interview applicants. --- The Trout Derby has been moved back to the May 2 date and it will be jointly sponsored by the Boy Scout troop and the Cub Scout pack. Trout could not be stocked in time for the earlier date.

Birthdays — **Gerry Bougeois** celebrated.

Happiness — **Gerry Bougeois** recommended that everyone read the article on Desmond Tutu in the April *Rotarian*. He feels that Tutu and Nelson Mandela kept South African from becoming another Zimbabwe. --- **Mary Breuninger** told a story of giving an orange to her accountant, only to be upstaged by Gary who gave the accountant two oranges. But the happy ending is that the account will be buying Rotary citrus next year. --- **Dick Breuninger** announced that MRC will be getting a student from Slovakia next year. --- **Juanita Brown** now has her second great-grandson. --- **Mike D'Amico** is mourning the passing of his German Shepard. --- **Nancy Fusco** is proud of granddaughter Leanne who qualified for the State gymnastic meet in her age class. ---

Harry Graves praised the music program at Waterville High School. The chorus performed "Hello Dolly" as its spring musical. --- **Beth Keene** is glad to be "home" again in our midst. She'll be riding in the upcoming diabetes bike-a-thon. The Cure de Tour event will be held June 7 in Saratoga Springs. Her father will accept any supporting donations from members. --- **Dick Keene** spent much of last week in Saratoga. He combined a "water witching" job with the pleasure of watching his granddaughters in a State choral competition. --- **John Matteson's** daughter Abigail has produced John's 10th grandson. --- **Lois Miller-Ballard** spent the weekend in Syracuse. --- **Patrick Pegg** thanked Mike D for all the furniture he has donated to the Pegg's new home. --- **Norm Tiffany** told another funny story. --- **Mike Virgil**

Active Members

Bosco, Sharon *
Bourgeois, Gerard *
Breuninger, Mary *
Brown, Juanita *
Burdick, William
Conroe, Jeffrey +
D'Amico, Michael +
DeLaurentis, 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

Getting To Know Jaro

It will be Gilbertsville-Mount Upton's turn to host the club's visiting YEP student next year. **Dick Breuninger** says he will be the boy's advisor. *The exchangee being sent to Morris RC is Jaroslav "Jaro" Dlouhy from Poprad, Slovakia. He is 16 and will have his birthday on May 24th.*

Poprad is in the Tatra Mountains (highest range in Slovakia). It is the ski area of Slovakia. He plays soccer, basketball and tennis. He likes swimming and ice skating. He plays accordion and keyboard. He has been once to the North American continent traveling to Mexico.

Next In Rotary Service: Conduct Your Firm's Business According To The Four-Way Test

noted that the World Health Organization will be conducting an immunization program in Nigeria, another polio hot-spot. --- **Royce Webster** is looking for some utensils missing since the Superbowl Sunday barbecue.

Program — Morris' Stacia Norman and Vicky Lentz from Stetsonville introduced the Butternut Valley Alliance. The year-old group has been holding meetings in villages up and down the Butternut Valley from Exeter to the Unadilla River near Mount Upton. (The next meeting is April 19 in Gilbertsville.) Their goal is to support agriculture, to devel-

op a watershed protection program, to educate citizens about the importance of preserving and protecting the valley, and to preserve the valley's extraordinary scenic landscapes and open spaces.

Their immediate projects are to support the farmer's market, to work with SUCO students to monitor the valley's waters for purity, and to have Route 51 and County Route 16 proclaimed a Scenic Byway to strengthen the local tourist economy. The BVA can be found on the web at <http://sites.google.com/site/butternutvalleyalliance>

Board of Directors Meeting - March 9, 2009

Typed and Distributed by Carrie Lynn Phillips

Present: President Conroe, President-elect G. Johnson, Vice-president Burdick, Secretary Marlier, Treasurer Fusco, and Directors F. Johnson and Phillips.

Funding for the Banner Project and an update on their design and material was tabled until the April meeting.

Carrie Lynn Phillips reported that the talent show to benefit Catskill Area Hospice and Palliative Care scheduled for April 24th at MCS had to be postponed until the fall, as Hospice Director, Bob Escher, said the Central New York Radio Group is sponsoring a talent show soon. The Board approved a \$300 donation for our event to be used as prize money for the talent show we will hold this fall.

Fred Johnson noted that District 7170 is sending a Group Study Exchange Team to the Northern part of England this summer. If any Morris Rotarian would like to be the leader of this team, Fred should be contacted ASAP. District 7170 is hosting a Group Study Exchange Team from Peru and Gary Johnson requested that Fred ask the team to present a program for our club.

The Board voted to donate \$270 to Nature's Classroom to sponsor one child from MCS to attend this week-long event held in Massachusetts in September. Current fifth graders are eligible to attend and all the funds must be raised to send these students.

The Board voted to give \$25 to the Major's Inn Foundation.

Discussion on the Linn Tractor Building Project was tabled until the April meeting.

Membership ideas were discussed. Suggestions included making sure all our newer members were invited to the Winter Bash on March 27; Having a "fireside chat " including all members, which was a highly successful event hosted by Sharon Bosco several years ago. Fred Johnson will contact her about hosting another when she returns from Florida; having a mentor for each new member; and using an interview instead of a classification talk for new members, which would utilize a Rotarian asking questions of the new member instead of the member having to give an actual talk.

It was suggested that we have a fundraiser to benefit Polio Plus. At this time the Board felt we had too many projects scheduled at this time to add another. But, it was noted that buckets for donations are currently located at our Monday night meeting, Nicole's Diner and the Morris Family Market. It was also mentioned that a portion of our \$1000 donation to the RI Annual Fund be designated for Polio Plus.

A request was received from the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Conference to help fund a current 10th grade student to attend a 3-day conference in Albany, designed to promote and develop leadership skills. President Jeff will contact Mike Virgil to obtain further information so the Board can act on this request.

The Board decided that it wouldn't be feasible for Rotary to staff a table at the weekly Farmer's Market July – October. It was decided that a brochure, featuring Rotary projects and events be available at the Farmer's Market, Yard Sale Day etc. Fred Johnson volunteered to design this using a previous brochure as a starting point.

The Following amendment regarding District Policies and Procedures by Dr. Catrina Truesdale, President of the Oneonta Rotary Club, was read. It requested that the District Finance Committee shall oversee the withdrawal of district funds. Without exception, District 7170 checks over \$500.00 will be cosigned by two designated members of the committee, preferably the District Treasurer and the Finance Chair. Checks under \$500.00 can be signed by the Treasurer only. Every check will be issued only upon receipt of a paid bill or official form estimate of expected expense for the District. The D.G. shall have the authority to sign checks if one of the designated signatures is unavailable. This amendment will be voted on at the District's Annual Convention May 1-3 at the Regency Hotel in Binghamton.

Carrie Lynn stated that we should review our calendar of upcoming events at each Board meeting so adequate plans can be made. Our calendar includes the Chicken and Biscuit Dinner to benefit the Scouts on April 21st, the Annual Auction on May 15th and our Golf Tournament on May 30th.

Respectfully submitted, Felice Marlier