



Always A Volunteer
Thanks, Herb.

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

April 27, 2009

Number 41

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

Last Meeting – April 20, 2009

The regular weekly meeting at the Morris Town House was called to order by President **Jeffrey Conroe**. The meal for 19 Rotarians and guests was prepared by **Juanita Brown** and Vicky Pegg. Again, there was no winner in the Two of Clubs drawing. **Joan Miller** drew the Ace of Clubs. **Roger Miller** presented plaques on the Four Way Test and the Object of Rotary from a club in Ohio. **Lois Miller-Ballard** will give next week's Rotary Moment.

Guests — None

Make-Ups — **Harry Graves** attended a meeting of the Cobleskill Rotary Club on Wednesday, April 22.

Announcements — **Roger Miller** realized the previous date for the litter pick-up conflicted with several schedules. After some discussion, several members committed to volunteer on Thursday, April 30. The group will meet at the Firehouse at 6 PM. --- **Mike Virgil** presented a

raffle idea that an out-of-town community group reported to be very successful. --- **Bill Burdick** met with his golf tournament committee. The plan has been slightly modified for the 2009 tournament. Work assignments have been drafted.

Birthdays & Anniversaries — **Fred Johnson** and **Bill Pickens** had birthdays.

Happiness — **Mike D'Amico** went to Hamilton College to watch Kayla participate in a track meet. He also expressed his best wishes for a speedy recovery by a friend who recently was involved in a motorcycle accident. --- **Harry Graves** remembered the incident at Columbine High School. He was in Colorado on a ski trip when the event happened a decade ago. --- **Fred Johnson** was on the Outer Banks of North Carolina with the family for the spring break. He also spoke of a sophomore at G-MU who will be a featured soprano soloist in an upcoming choral event. --- **Roger Miller** and Joan got to spend the weekend with the grandkids. --- **Carrie Lynn Phillips** is now a non-smoker. She has successfully passed the one week mark. She spent part of that time on vacation in Pennsylvania. --- **Bill Pickens** contributed his birthday dollar. --- **Hank Rehrmann** says "Welcome home, George". Rumor has it that the Frankels will be back in town this week. --- **Royce Webster** brought along an extra potato peeler for whoever might have been forgetful this evening.

Neighbors — Sidney Rotarians are ramping up for their annual Mother's Day plant sale. Hanging baskets are \$20. Flats are \$18. The event will be held at the Great American Plaza on May 7-9.

This Week – April 27, 2009

Cobleskill Rotarian **Mike Vandow** will give us a progress report on a proposed film commission for Otsego and Schoharie counties.

Next Week – May 04, 2009

Barry Moore will give us an update on how the economic downturn combined with technology changes are impacting the US Postal System.

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

Morris Scout Programs Profit

Members rolled up their sleeves on Tuesday evening for the annual chicken and biscuit dinner. There was a steady flow of diners through the United Methodist Church but the numbers were down slightly from past years. After all expenses are covered it appears that the Morris-area scout programs will realize close to \$600, according to chairman **Mike D'Amico**.



Next In Rotary Service: The MRC Highway Pick-up will be Thursday, April 30 at 6 PM.

How Rotary Works

RYLEA Offers An Opportunity For Personal Growth

It was announced recently that Morris Rotary will be sending an extra local student to participate in the 2009 RYLEA program. Traditionally, the students tell the club about their experience later in the summer ...but most Rotarians are really unfamiliar with the RYLEA program.

RYLEA is an acronym for the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards program. The idea started in 1959 in Queensland, Australia. Planned around Queensland's centennial, it proved to be a very successful event. Another session was planned for the following year. The good news spread. RYLEA came to District 7170 in the early 1980s and the week-long conference was held at Golden Valley Sports Camp in Sidney in the early years. Now it's based on the Hartwick College campus in Oneonta. This summer's program will be the district's 27th annual event.

According to the RI website, *Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is Rotary's leadership training program for young people. RYLEA participants can be ages 14-30, but most clubs and districts choose to focus on a narrower age range, such as 14-18 or 19-30. RYLEA emphasizes leadership, citizenship, and personal growth.*

District 7170 has narrowed the scope of RYLEA to high school juniors, similar to other "junior experiences" like Boys State, Girls State, and a host of specialty seminars for promising students. This will be the largest session ever with 117 participants; past sessions had been limited to 110 students. In all, 36 Rotary clubs provide scholarships to high school juniors. The tab for tuition and lodging is currently \$350 per attendee. Clubs like Binghamton, Sidney, Endwell, and Norwich send six students, according to RYLEA Treasurer Craig Lawson. Other groups send five, four, or fewer students depending on the club's finances and by the number of high schools served by that particular Rotary club.

Most members of the RYLEA staff are area high school teachers. Many of the guest speakers have direct ties with Rotary. Several were former Rotary exchange students. In fact, one of the most popular speakers is Duke Fisher of Bainbridge who presents a unit on Managing Conflict. He starts his presentation by explaining that he reserves the date of his RYLEA presentation each year as his way of "paying back" the YEP experience that Rotary gave to him several years ago.

Other presentations are made on such varied topics as "Actions and Words" by Diane Munroe; "Motivation" by Tom Morgan; "Decisions, Decisions" by Robb & Lee; "Values and Ethics in Leadership" by Greg Krikorian; and "Career Exploration: A New Age approach" by Lou Shields. In addition, the students produce a newspaper, have a public speaking contest, create band and chorus shows, and take such electives as photography, scrapbooking, computers, and wall painting.

Director Julie Lambiaso says a community volunteerism component has been added. "Last year, we collected books to send to New Orleans and to the local Salvation Army office. We'll have a different community service project for this year that will be announced soon."

Lambiaso says the staff is gearing up for a unit on handling such community tragedies as the recent shootings in Binghamton and/or an auto accident that could strike a school, devastating a close-knit group of friends.

For many of the students, it will be their first experience on a college campus. The students will live in dorms with roommates not from their home schools, eat in the cafeteria, have use of other Hartwick College facilities such as the library, computer and technology rooms, fitness center and pool, and large meeting rooms.

The RYLEA experience will conclude with an awards banquet for parents and friends on Friday evening, July 3. Although reservations must be made in advance, this event is open to all district Rotarians. "The entire evening program will be prepared by the students," says Lambiaso. "It's a great way for everyone to see some outstanding student work ...and to see the value that's coming from your club's investment."

How do other Rotary districts do it?

District 7190 – Capitol Region Rotary The program is open only to high school juniors but they meet throughout the academic year (October through April). The first and last meetings are full-day; the other five sessions are half-day seminars. RYLEA is not located on a college campus.

District 7150 – Syracuse, Utica and Central New York RYLEA is a mid-summer Friday-Sunday weekend event for high school juniors. This year, it's set for July 10-12 at Cazenovia College.

District 7120 – Finger Lakes Rotary RYLEA is a week-long seminar held at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) right after graduation (June 28-July 2). It is open to students "of high school age".

District 7090 – Niagara Frontier and Buffalo Their RYLEA is geared to 40-45 post-secondary students and recent graduates ages 19-25. The event will be held June 14-20 on the campus of SUNY Fredonia.

District 7210 – Catskill Mountains and Hudson Valley The week-long seminar is held for high school sophomores at Mount St. Mary College in Newburgh.

District 7230 – Westchester County and NYC RYLEA is open to high school sophomores and juniors at a nature camp near Ashokan in the Catskill Mountains. The High Adventure experience is held over a weekend in October.