



**Scout Trout Derby**  
A Young Boy's Dream

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

**May 11, 2009**

Number 43

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

## Last Meeting – May 4, 2009

The regular weekly meeting at the Morris Town House was called to order by President **Jeffrey Conroe**. The meal for 29 Rotarians and guests was cooked by **Juanita Brown** and Vicky Pegg. In the Two of Clubs drawing, **Hank Rehrmann** drew the Three of Clubs. **Lois Miller-Ballard** distributed a list for make-up meeting places. **Mike Virgil** will give next week's Rotary Moment.

**Guests — Dick Breuninger** and **Barbara Ann Heegan** were visiting Rotarians from Oneonta. Ruth Ann Johnson accompanied her husband. We welcomed back snowbirds **Neil Townsend**, **Jim Pasternak** and **George Frankel** from their winter quarters in the sunshine.

**Make-Ups — Neil Townsend** presented us with five make-up cards from his Florida visits to the Hudson Rotary Club.

## With MRC Support



Morris Rotary donated to the annual Trout Derby conducted by Cub Pack # 3 earlier this month. Scout James Peterson landed the largest fish, a fine one that measured 21 ½ inches. Pre-schooler Justine Norton had three fish to win the award for the "most inches overall".

**Announcements — Royce Webster** is back in Morris. (Update as of Sunday - His heart now has two stents and a defibrillator. Webby returned to Morris on Friday. He says he can't drive for three weeks ...but has already started to make some business decisions. Expect to see him at Rotary on Monday night to help with auction preparations.) --- **Hank Rehrmann** and **Roger Miller** were thanked for helping the Morris Garden Club plant their trees. --- **Bill Burdick** says profits from the golf tournament will be to fund the community's banner project.

**Birthdays & Anniversaries — None.**

**Happiness — Gerry Bourgeois** says half of his planned 60 acres of corn have been planted. --- **Mary Breuninger** extended best wishes for Royce's recovery. --- **Bill Burdick** announced gleefully that MetLife's banking division did not accept TARP funds. --- **George Frankel** is glad to be back. He had been putting his motorcycle to good use since in the sunny weather. --- **Harry Graves** spent a few extra minutes to watch John take his swings in today's UV baseball game before rushing to Rotary. It was worth it; John got a triple. --- **Gary Johnson** is happy to have his wife here to watch the speaker's remarks. --- **John Matteson** hopes for a quick recovery for Royce. --- **Roger Miller** thanked all who worked on the highway pick-up. He also welcomed back the snowbirds. --- **Jim Pasternak** is glad to be back in the land of evening Rotary meetings. --- **Bill Pickens** expressed thoughts for Royce. --- **Hank Rehrmann** said he went to Williamsport with his son and grandson to transport a car. He recounted all the wildlife they saw along the way. --- **Fred Schwarzhans** saw Mary's film at SUNY Purchase. --- **Norm Tiffany** told another funny story that made us groan. --- **Neil Townsend** is glad to be back in the North Country. --- **Mike Virgil** welcomed back the snowbirds.

## This Week – May 11, 2009

Work night to prepare for Friday's auction.

## Next Week – May 18, 2009

Thais Sayuri Endo will take us to Brazil.

## 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 \*  
Schwarzhans, Fred  
Schwarzhans, 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: Please Get Your Donated Items To The Auction As Early As Possible.**

**Program — April 27, 2009**

Cobleskill Rotarian **Mike Vandow** spent part of his working career as a Professor at SUNY Cobleskill in the School of Liberal Arts and Science teaching video production, cinema and mass communications. Now he is working to promote a film commission in the counties of upstate New York. He is targeting Otsego, Schoharie, and the other counties in the Central-Leatherstocking region. Mike and the others on his committee have presented the idea to various governing bodies.

A website prototype has been designed to promote services readily available to those creating the visual arts. The goal is show those producing films, television shows, and commercials the many scenic locations and existing services in the area. Studies show that the entertainment industry has a considerable financial impact on any location while the work is being filmed. In addition, there is an opportunity for many "extras" to get on-camera jobs.

Others entities are also aware of the economic impact of the film industry. While Morris Rotary was meeting on Monday, May 4, a Syracuse television station was airing a news item about that city's similar effort.

*Syracuse (WSYR-TV) - Syracuse is letting movie makers know it's open for business. The Syracuse Film Office has been hard at work since the initiative was announced a year ago.*

*The city has certainly gotten a taste of Hollywood over the past couple years, from big studio productions such as "The Express" to smaller films. The whole goal of the Syracuse Film Office is to get more films made in central New York -- and it's already making progress.*

Because of last week's medical news about Rotarian Royce Webster, this article was pulled from the newsletter.

**Program — May 4, 2009**

In a program that generated many questions, Barry Moore told of several challenges facing the US Postal Service. He said his Southern Tier area is handling a lot less mail than just a few years ago. As a result, they are consolidating routes and taking other steps to increase efficiency while reducing costs.

He announced that the USPS is considering changing operations for out-going mail at the Binghamton processing center. Later in the week, details of the consolidation were carried on TV news.



*North Syracuse (WSYR-TV) – Mail from Binghamton, Watertown and Utica could all be going through North Syracuse before reaching its destination. It's a cost-cutting plan from the Postal Service intended to save about \$3 million. So far this year, the Postal Service has lost almost \$2 billion. The plan would affect about 30 positions in those smaller cities. Those people would be given opportunities elsewhere, or they'd be reassigned to other positions.*

*The main reason for the plan is the lack of mail. Back in the early 1990s, the processing center in North Syracuse would get about 300,000 pieces of mail a day; today, mail passing through those three cities and North Syracuse combined still wouldn't match that number. If this consolidation occurred, it would happen without any changes at your mailbox. As it stands right now, the North Syracuse center processes mail from the three cities on the weekend, so it's used to the added volume. Before any plan is approved, it has to be put before the public through a set of hearings.*

*Moore says that despite the service's current problems the USPS remains the nation's most trusted government agency. It will be taking a step that will impact everyone, the rate for a First Class letter goes up to 44 cents on May 11.*



## Mark Your Calendar - Spread The Word

Friday, May 15	Rotary Auction	Otsego County Fairgrounds In Morris
Monday, May 18	Thais Endo's YEP Program	Morris Town House
Monday, May 25	No Meeting	Memorial Day
Saturday, May 30	Shoot Straight For Service Golf Event	Colonial Ridge Golf Course
Monday, June 1	Pride of Workmanship Dinner	Stella Luna Restaurant, Oneonta
Mondays, June 8-22	Regular Rotary Meetings	Morris Town House
Monday, June 29	Pass The Gavel Picnic	Centennial Park, Gilbertsville
Monday, July 6	Gary Johnson Starts his Third Term as	Morris Rotary President
Saturday, July 18	Community Yard Sale	All Around Town

# The Rotary Foundation

Dear Rotarians,

At our April meeting, The Rotary Foundation Trustees examined how the current global economic crisis has affected the Foundation's ability to support Rotarians' good work worldwide. Like all foundations, we have experienced substantial unrealized investment losses, forcing us to suspend Matching Grant applications in March of this year. These losses will also have an impact on the amount of money available for program awards in the coming year.

In determining our program and operations budgets for 2009-10, the Trustees made some very difficult decisions. We were fortunate to have the Future Vision Plan to help us focus strategically on what we believe to be best for our Foundation, next year and beyond. For example, funds for polio eradication - our top priority - remain secure, as do the resources to launch the Future Vision pilot in July 2010. We will, however, accelerate the elimination of several programs slated to be discontinued in 2010-11. Effective 1 July 2009, the Foundation will no longer fund the following:

- \* Rotary Grants for University Teachers, except for grants already awarded
- \* Volunteer Service Grants
- \* Cultural and Multi-Year Ambassadorial Scholarships, except for grants already awarded

In addition, the World Fund allocation for Matching Grants was reduced to US\$9.5 million for 2009-10, about 70 percent less than the original budget for 2008-09. Districts are encouraged to use their District Designated Fund (DDF), which is secure and not affected by budget cutbacks in any way, to help carry out their humanitarian service projects. Keep in mind, however, that DDF may not be used to support program activities that have been eliminated.

The budget for Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) Grants was also greatly reduced and will only support new projects that are part of our alliance with USAID to improve water and sanitation in the Dominican Republic, Ghana, and the Philippines. We have also suspended some other activities for 2009-10, including the Scholarships Fund Pool for Low-Income Countries, Regional Scholar Seminar Grants, the Rotary Alumni Celebration at the 2010 RI Convention, and training for Rotary Foundation alumni coordinators.

Looking ahead, the Trustees agreed that World Fund Group Study Exchange (GSE) partner districts will spread their exchanges over two years in fiscal years 2010-11 and 2011-12, with one team being funded in each of the years. GSE funding determination for 2012-13, the final year of the program before the Future Vision Plan is implemented across the Foundation, will be made in April 2010.

More information about the impact that budget decisions will have on grant application processing for Educational Programs and the Humanitarian Grants Program is available on [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).

We understand that many Rotarians will be disappointed by one or more of these cutbacks. Given the current economic situation, however, it was essential to reduce the Foundation's 2009-10 program budget to \$153.3 million, which is slightly less than the projected actual for 2008-09 and \$27.1 million less than the original 2008-09 budget. Our 2009-10 operations budget, including staffing for the Future Vision pilot, is \$43.1 million, about \$1.6 million under last year's budget. Thanks to cost-cutting measures this year, however, we anticipate the 2008-09 projected operations expenses to come in at about \$4.6 million under budget.

As troubling as our current economic situation is, we must remember that our Foundation experienced tremendous growth when investment markets were favorable. In good years, we were able to provide tens of millions of dollars to address critical problems in every part of the world. I have every hope that we will once again have a bounty of funds to disperse so that Rotarians can continue to do good in the world for decades to come.

That outcome depends in large part on the continued support of our 1.2 million Rotarians. Although we have had to suspend some of our activities, there can be no moratorium on humanitarian service in Rotary. I am happy to report that Rotarians are continuing to give generously to our Foundation; year-to-date total contributions are higher than last year at this time. Without this support, the program cuts would have been even more painful.

As we work through this economic crisis together, I urge every Rotarian to make a contribution to our Annual Programs Fund by 30 June. Your gifts will strengthen our long-term ability to respond to urgent humanitarian needs and work for a world at peace. I promise you that the Foundation Trustees and our staff will endeavor to protect, maximize, and leverage our Foundation assets as much as we possibly can in today's volatile economic climate.

Jonathan B. Majiyagbe