



A Goodbye Hug
Thais Sayuri Endo
Returns Home To Brazil

Serving Residents of the Butternut Valley Since 1938

The ROTARY CLUB of MORRIS, NY

Chartered February, 1938 Charter #4887
Gary Johnson, President Selean "Sam" Koury, Governor
District 7170



2009-2010 Rotary Theme

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

Last Meeting – August 3, 2009

The regular weekly meeting at the Morris Town House was called to order by President **Gary Johnson**. Despite preparations for the Otsego County Fair and an anticipated low attendance, we had 32 members and guests. The meal was prepared by **Juanita Brown** and Vicky Pegg. Dylan Aikins drew the Six of Hearts in the Jack of Diamonds drawing. **John Matteson** spoke of the community leaders pictured in the club's 10th anniversary photo. **Gerry Bourgeois** will give next week's Rotary Moment.

Guests — **Dick Breuninger** (Oneonta), **Anna Ritchey** (Sidney) and the **Rev. John Bowen** (Catskill) were visiting Rotarians. Special RYLA guests were Alyssa Hite and Carly Skinner of MCS, Calli Hill and Emma Stebbins of G-MU, and John Lopez of UV. Other guests included departing exchange student Thais Sayuri Endo, Carly's parents Jim and Andrea Skinner, Jesse Matteson with member John, Norm Ritchey with visitor Anna, student Dylan Aikins (UV) with member Harry.

Announcements — **Matt Meyers** reported that his group did not work this week. The new concrete floor was poured a week ago and the finished product hardened without carved initials or other vandalism. --- **Harry Graves** and the website committee met to draft guidelines for the proposed site. --- The club's Fireside Chat

will be held on September 14 at the Bosco home. Dinner will be served at the Town House first and the members will carpool to the Bosco residence on Pegg Road. --- **Anna Ritchey** gave a quick plug for the highlights of the 2009 Otsego County Fair which opens on Tuesday. She distributed fliers (and pointed out a couple of misprints). She also paid tribute to Sidney member **Ted Elliott** who has 56 years of perfect attendance. --- Reminder: Your club dues are due to Treasurer **Nancy Fusco**.

Happiness — **Anna Ritchey** thanked members Harry and Ron for serving as judges of the Grange displays at this year's fair. --- **Gerry Bourgeois** and Doris attended the 50th anniversary of their friends, the Mullers. After that, they went on to Fair Haven to spend time with their Rochester-area friends. --- **Rev. John Bowen** told a funny Irish joke. --- **Dick Breuninger** told of a great time for all the returning exchange students. --- **Juanita Brown** has a new great-grandchild, her 7th (not delivered by Dr. Pegg). --- **Mike D'Amico** met Juanita's goats, one is as friendly as a puppy. He also attended a YEP district-level meeting; now he's going to recruit outbound candidates. --- **Thais Endo** thanked the members for a great year in Morris. --- **Harry Graves** welcomed all the visiting RYLA students. --- **Fred Johnson** told of an appearance in the Adirondacks by the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra. And, he told of a grandchild's

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 *
Harris, Carl
Hay, Ronald *
Johnson, Fred *
Johnson, Gary *
Keene, Richard *
Kranbuhl, Maureen
Long, Joanne
Marlier, Felice *
Matteson, John *
Meyers, Matthew
Miller, Joan
Miller, Roger *
Miller-Ballard, Lois *
Pasternak, James *
Pegg, Patrick
Phillips, CarrieLynn +
Pickens, William *
Rehmann, Henry *
Schwarzans, Fred
Schwarzans, Marg
Tiffany, Norman *
Townsend, Neil *
Virgil, Michael *
Webster, Royce *

YEP Students

Dlouhy, Jaroslav "Jaro"
From Slovakia to G-MU
No Outbound Students
During 2009-2010

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
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Lynn Tractor Building — These "before and after" pictures show that the Lynn Tractor building will be re-designed to allow better display of the historic tractor that was once manufactured in Morris. The new structure will feature more display space, plate glass windows, and better lighting. A public dedication will be scheduled for the autumn.

Next In Rotary Service: Recommend A Rotary Experience (RYLA or YEP) To A Deserving Student.

wish for his 5th birthday, a dress-up party. --- **Joanne Long** reconnected with a long-time friend. --- **John Matteson** is glad to have Hank doing the wiring at their in-town house. --- **Hank Rehrmann** praised Matt's efforts last week for running projects at both the Lynn Tractor building and at Hank's house. --- **Neil Townsend** says it's worth coming to Rotary just to hear Norm's humorous stories.

Program — Alyssa, Calli, Carly, and Emma recounted their likes and dislikes following a week at Hartwick College for the annual RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) experience. They had the usual complaints of hard beds and "institutional" college food. Aside from that, everyone was very positive about the experience. (Anna Ritchey praised Emma's recent program about RYLA to the Butternut Valley Grange in Gilbertsville.)

They were among 118 high school juniors from dozens of Southern Tier districts, all sponsored by their home Rotary clubs. Many participants became very good friends with students from other schools and some have even planned events those new friends since their RYLA week.

This year's RYLA schedule featured presentations by accomplished educators and successful local businessmen, including:

"Who We Are & How We Got Here" by Robb Monro,
 "School Violence" by NYS Trooper Peter Grunder,
 "Who I Am" by Katie Lishansky,
 "Motivation" by *Moneytalk*'s Tom Morgan,
 "Decisions, Decisions" by Robb Munro & Lee Ferrara,
 "Managing Conflict" by RYLA veteran Duke Fisher,
 "Career Exploration, New Age Approach" by Lou Shields,
 and two student government symposiums.

In addition, there were numerous small group activities such as band, choir, RYLA newsletter, wall painting, SCUBA diving, skits, and dances.



RYLA 2009 — Morris Rotary was represented at the 2009 RYLA seminar at Hartwick College by (from left) Carly Skinner and Alyssa Hite from MCS. Emma Stebins and Calli Hill represented GMU. Missing from the photo is MCS' Melissa Galbreth.

Committee Report

MRC Website Needs

The world has moved into the Information Age. Most RI materials are now available to be downloaded from the internet. Many clubs and districts promote their activities on their own sites. After discussing the matter with internet-savvy members for years, member **Harry Graves** last year offered to donate server space to the club for a website. He made the offer again to the new administration.

President Gary has formed a committee to look into the details of the offer. A group of Morris Rotarians met last week to define the club's needs so a website could be designed to meet the members' wishes. The site is currently under development; a draft will be presented to the club later in the summer for member input.

Here are the group's initial thoughts.

1. Any MRC site should be clean and simple in design ...and easy for the user to navigate. It is intended to become a primary source of MRC materials.
2. The site's main purpose should be to present a positive image and current information to the community. Secondly, it should be a reference source for members of the Morris Rotary Club. Of least importance is rest of the Rotary world. Our site should not be cluttered with too much general Rotary information which is already available elsewhere.
3. Upcoming projects and/or recent news should take priority and be the site's principle postings.
4. Although most updates may be handled by one or two members, a "website administration committee" will be formed to oversee the site. At least four (4) club members who are committed to publicizing the club will have logon access.
5. The site is a gift of member Graves with all expenses presently covered. Any future costs will be presented to the club's Board of Directors by the Website Committee for inclusion in future budgets.
6. To keep the site very user-friendly, the site will not have password protection. (This may change as more members become comfortable with computers.) However, some simple protections will be established.
 Some items (such as posters for upcoming events) will be "locked" in a PDF (or similar) format. Club members will be encouraged to copy and post/distribute these publications.
 Other basic forms of completed (or on-going) projects will be stored in "unlocked" formats (such as Word or Excel) and are intended to copied/downloaded, then updated for the "next event" These basic forms are intended to be a "library of tools" to be used by all members/chairmen as needed.
7. The website will be presented to both the Board of Directors and to the general membership for discussion and member-input before any final decisions are made by the BOD.
8. Training classes will be required for all members of the "website administration committee". In addition, a class(s) will be offered to MRC members on navigating the site and use of its stored materials.