



Home To Roost!

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

Volume 71

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Number 17

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



2009-2010 Rotary Theme

### Last Meeting – October 26, 2009

The regular weekly meeting at the Morris Town House was called to order by President **Gary Johnson**. There were 26 Rotarians and guests present. The meal was prepared by **Juanita Brown**. For the second week in a row, **Roger Miller** tried to find the Jack of Hearts; he drew the Two of Spades.

**Guests** — Guests included exchange student Jaro Dlouhy, speaker Tom Ives of Cazenovia Equipment Company in South New Berlin, and Mackenzie Ballard.

### The Family Of Rotary

## Remembering...

Rotarians were saddened this week to hear of the passing of longtime Tri-Town Rotarian **Jesse Johnson**. His Rotary career covered four decades. He started in Bainbridge where he headed operations at NYSEG's Jennison power generating station. Jesse transferred to the Sidney club in 1986. In 2007 he was lauded by the club as Rotarian of the Year.

**Announcements** — **Royce Webster** and **Mike D'Amico** will head the committee to organize Christmas basket deliveries. --- Workers report that there is still a little work to be completed on the Linn Tractor building. The tractor is scheduled to be moved into its new home next week. --- **Mike Virgil** reviewed plans for the Halloween Party at MCS. He asked members to dress appropriately and to arrive at school no later than 6:45 PM. The contest pumpkin is being donated by Gary Smith. --- **John Matteson** suggested that each member bring a potential member to the meeting of November 9. The program will be about creating fuel pellets from grasses. Please extend your invitations early so we can provide a "count" to Juanita next week.

**Birthdays & Anniversaries** — None.

**Happiness** — **Gerry Bourgeois** says he and Brian have started cutting their grain corn. ---

**Dick Breuninger** went to a memorial service for a friend and former Rotary exchange student. --- **Bill Burdick** has a great time at Lois' haunted trail last weekend despite less-than-great weather. --- **Mike D'Amico** is happy again. --- **Harry Graves** praised a private-label

### 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 \*  
Rehrmann, 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  
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**Happy Halloween** — It was another successful Halloween Party for the youth of Morris. Rotarians judged 91 costumed gremlins, many with truly imaginative costumes. Despite an earlier shower that complicated Trick or Treat plans, everyone seemed to enjoy the party at the school. Nearly all the cider was consumed and only a few doughnuts remained to be returned to the cafeteria. Many of the Rotary volunteers showed up in costume.

Gavin Tracy successfully guessed the weight of the large pumpkin. There were 60 entries. Gavin's guess was 117 pounds. The actual weight was 117 pounds. Gavin gets a \$50 US savings bond.

#### Special thanks go to:

Student Council and National Honor Society members for creating the Spook Hallway with help from teachers Dave Gorman, Wes Ciampo and Linda Trimble.  
Cliff Hoag and Kennie Ballard for their janitorial assistance.  
Gary Smith for growing and donating the large pumpkin.  
Honorary member Herb Sorensen for registering pumpkin guesses.  
Joe and Carol Tyson and Lucille Meyers for again judging.  
Judy Matson for typing and distributing the take-home notices.  
Marguerite Palmer and Mary Jane Conroe for organizing kids.  
And to all the Rotarians who showed up to keep things flowing.



**Keep Our Rotary Club Strong. Invite A Friend. Prospective Member Night Will Be Next Monday.**

cereal company that promoted libraries on its boxes. --- **Ron Hay** is heading off to Florida for the next six months. --- **Fred Johnson** told of another successful concert by the Catskill Choral Society. --- **Dick Keene** reported the passing of Gilbertsville coach Jim Johnson's mother. --- **John Matteson** attended a wedding in Madison, CT. --- **Joan Miller** went to Maryland to visit her daughter and family. --- **Lois Miller-Ballard** relayed stories about her haunted trail. --- **Jim Pasternak** recounted riding bikes with the grandkids near Poughkeepsie. The 1.3 mile old Poughkeepsie-Highland Railroad Bridge across the Hudson has been redesigned to accommodate pedestrian traffic. (It's now a NY State Park known as Walkway Over The Hudson. You can read the details on the web at <http://walkway.org/>, including a flattering editorial that appeared in the *New York Times*.) --- **Norm Tiffany** paid a dollar for his joke. --- **Neil Townsend** told of his trip back to his former hometown of Hudson Falls. --- **Mike Virgil** praised the MCS Boys Soccer team on a most successful season. --- **Royce Webster** says that President Gary bought dinner at UMC before their Saturday gathering to play cards.

#### **This Week – November 02, 2009**

We dropped back to Standard Time over the weekend so it's getting dark earlier. And, there's a full moon tonight. Sidney High School astronomy teacher Rich Townsend will be here to offer some tips on backyard star gazing.



**Program** — A few short minutes of preparation this fall can save a lot of "won't start" headaches with your garden equipment next spring. The club called on the local John Deere dealer for suggestions. Tom Ives of Cazenovia Equipment Company (formerly Valley Supply) in South New Berlin offered steps that should be taken in the fall on tillers, lawn mowers, and garden tractors. He recommended a few simple steps.

- + Add a good fuel stabilizer to the gas tank to keep fuel from breaking down. (He recommends running all of the gas-oil mix out of small engines like weed eaters and chain saws.)
- + Store batteries indoors to prevent them from freezing. Charge them periodically.
- + If leaky tires are a problem, put the machine on blocks to take the weight off those tires.
- + Clean all debris out of the engine and from under the mower deck. Decks will rust from accumulated wet clippings. Scrape off all dried-on clippings and wash the deck clean.
- + Spray a commercial "deck cleaner" (or Pam) on the inside of the deck to prevent future build-up.

If you have further questions, stop by the Caz Equipment location on Route 8 just north of South New Berlin. Go to the company's website ([www.cazenoviaequipment.com](http://www.cazenoviaequipment.com)) or contact at Tom at [tives@cazenoviaequipment.com](mailto:tives@cazenoviaequipment.com).

**Neighbors** — The **Norwich Rotary Club** has started its annual citrus sale. Being one of the area's only autumn fruit sales, it's the club's largest single fund-raiser. Orders will be taken for Navel and Hamlin oranges and Pink grapefruit until noon on Tuesday, November 17. Large 4/5 bushel boxes are \$25; the smaller 2/5 bushel boxes are \$18. The fruit will be delivered to the refrigerated warehouse at Norwich Beverage Company on Route 23 next to Sidney Federal Credit Union. It will be available for pick-up on Friday, December 4. --- Also conducting a holiday fund-raiser is the **Sidney Rotary Club**. They have assembled 20 beautiful gift baskets to be raffled off to fund their scholarship program. The baskets were created along such diverse themes as "Italian Treats", "Tailgate Party", "Teas", "Christmas", "Thanksgiving", and even "Cat Products". They'll be on display at various locations around the community until the drawing on November 17.

**Club Service** — Time and again, various members of the club have suggested that we record all of the steps that have to be taken to complete MRC projects. **Sharon Bosco** has agreed to undertake the job of recording MRC processes. The goal is to have a written record that a new chairman could follow to give the club a better chance of success events in future years. The data should include suggestions for recommended changes.

President Gary has further initiated a plan to train all new members on the workings of our existing committees. He is asking a newer member to serve as "vice-chairman" of each project to learn from the veteran chairman. **Maureen Kranbuhl** worked with Rotarian Mike on the Halloween Party. She and **Joanne Long** were also involved with all aspects of the New Teacher dinner with Chairman Harry. When returning from Florida next spring, Joanne will work with Rotarian Jim to update and store the club's long-neglected scrapbooks. Other members will be asked to learn the workings of MRC commitments as they occur.

Throughout the year, Chairman Sharon will be contacting the leaders of all projects – both fund-raisers and service projects – to identify and document all the tasks that need to be remembered. She will not be asking for the names of people who have worked in the past...but will concentrate on the tasks to be performed, such things as "order the cider" or "print judging sheets". She will keep these "task lists" in a central location for use by future chairmen. The results will also be stored digitally.

President Gary is continuing the long-range planning efforts of Past-president Jeff. Gary asks all chairmen to assist by preparing written lists of tasks for Sharon. She'll also be collecting copies of forms or posters that we use.

#### **Next Week – November 09, 2009**

Every member is encouraged to invite a prospective member to share the Morris Rotary experience. It should be an interesting program with Bob Miller here to tell how Enviro Energy in Unadilla is using grasses and weeds to create a pelleted fuel. Be sure to let Juanita know that you'll be bringing a guest so she can plan accordingly.