



The Accelerator



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER – THE ROTARY CLUB OF PITTSFORD, NY

Meets every Wednesday - Hicks & McCarthy @ 7:15 am

March 17, 2004

This Week's Reporters: Jim Cameron

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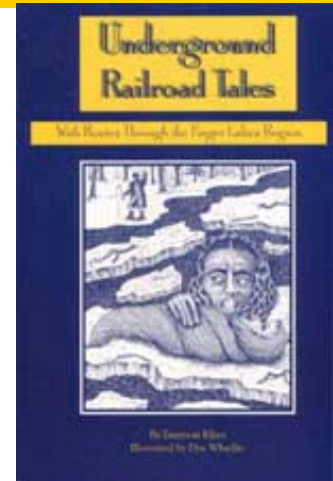


ROTARY TEAM Presiding: Rick Haverty
Musical Coordinator – Lynn Freshman

Invocation: Peggy Albrecht
Sergeant-at-arms: Frank Burns

MARCH 8-14 – was "WORLD ROTARACT WEEK"

Author Emerson Klees talks about the Underground Railroad in western NY - story below



VISITING ROTARIANS / GUESTS: Dan Harper, guest and prospective member, Dion Jenssen, and speaker Emerson Klees.

ATTENDANCE - reported by Bill Pieper: 23 members, 1 Honorary member, and 3 visitors / guests

MEMBER NEWS

Please forward any member news to Rick Haverty – email, phone, and napkins all work.

Jackie Swift's knee is coming along well. She'll soon be driving again and we could see her any week now. Ray Robbins was in the hospital due to a blockage of some sort. He's home now and hopes to be at next week's meeting. Ray was very disappointed he missed the Taste of Pittsford and wonders if there was any green Jello there?

Beans Bement reports temperatures in the 80s and daily rounds of golf – some better than others – in Florida. The Vesling's are also still down south. With spring in the air we should be seeing all of these semi-Rochestarians soon.

Jennel Dillon has resigned from the club due to her very busy schedule.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A TASTE OF PITTSFORD: Could this event have been any better! Comment sheets were passed out at the meeting. Feedback collected at the event was extremely positive from Nazareth College and the community. The door prizes were great too. Give comment sheets or verbal feedback to Gaven Hurley! Charlie Richardson mentioned that some prospective new members have come forward because of the event (at least one for Fairport Rotary). Oliver's Candies will be making chocolate bars with the Rotaract logo on them for use as a fundraiser. Next year we may ask Rotaract to provide valet service at the event. Kudos to Gaven, Jim Cameron, and all those who helped make this a landmark Pittsford event. Gaven reports that we have made (net) more than \$7,000. Not too shabby for the first try. You can put March 21, 2005 on your calendar for next year's Taste of Pittsford. I would buy my tickets early as this is bound to be a sell out!



Dan Buccieri poured hundreds of glasses of wine

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE DINNER: Elthea King rounded up a couple of extra volunteers to make dinner at Ronald McDonald House this coming Monday. Dion will be helping out as well.

CLUB EVALUATIONS – GET YOURS IN NOW AND AVOID AN EMBARRASSING CALL: You can fill them in online at <http://www.pittsfordrotary.org/clubevaluation.htm> or get a paper form from Mary Alice Price or Don Henderson.

HELP DION SEE THE USA: Remember to turn in your cans and bottles and bring the cash receipts in for Dion. He will use the money to help pay for his trip across the US this summer. We'll have a jar at each meeting from now until the end of June for your donations.

NEWSLETTER HELP: Looking for any literate or semi-literate members who may by chance want to help with the newsletter. Jim's hand is getting sore as the only note taker every week. I'll keep asking until someone steps up.



Live music, good food, wine, and good friends – The Murphy's chat with neighbors Mike & Michelle O'Leary



A man on a mission – Hank Ferris enjoys crab cakes and sushi compliments of Richardson's Canal House

FEATURES

THIS WEEKS PROGRAM

MUSIC: Lynn is back and led us in that fine western New York tune, "My Wild Irish Rose." Chauncey Olcott wrote the lyrics and music to "My Wild Irish Rose" for his production of "A Romance of Athlone." The music was published in 1899. Chauncey Olcott was born Chanellor John Olcott in Buffalo, New York. He produced several shows about Ireland for the New York stage and was one of the most popular singers, actors and songwriters of his time. Another of his hits was "When Irish Eyes are Smiling."

SPEAKER: Emerson Klees, author of "Under Ground Railroad Tales" spoke with us about Rochester and Pittsford connections to the Underground Railroad. Twenty to one hundred thousand slaves escaped between the period 1800 and 1870. Some went south into Florida and many



The Hargous-Briggs House at 52 South Main Street, Pittsford, NY. Judge Ashley Sampson was a stationmaster on the Underground Railroad and lived in this house in the 1820's. A large, abandoned bake oven in the basement served as a hiding place for escaping slaves. Narrow stairs between the south parlor rooms provided a secret passage from the basement to the attic.

came north, through Rochester and into Canada. Those who escaped were risk takers because once on the road it was an unknown whether people you came across were friend or foe.

American churches were the start of the movement, especially Quakers. In 1782 it was outlawed by Quakers to own slaves. In 1804 they rescued runaway slaves and that started the movement. By the 1840s escape routes were well established. Philadelphia was a big hub, with direct branches to Elmira and Ithaca. St. Catherine's was a primary destination point in Canada.

In Monroe County there are six confirmed destination points. Confirmation of a stop is very hard to prove. Today a lot of the destinations are either torn down, or have been modified as a part of renewal. Even today, structures that are being remodeled have passages that are being found with secret doors and concealed rooms. Caverns and tunnels from one destination point to another were used. Hay wagons and vegetable wagons were also used to conceal slave travelers. In Naples a mortuary hearse with concealed compartments underneath was used.

Many of the stops in Rochester and surrounding areas led to launching points on Lake Ontario where boats were used for transportation to Canada. The National Park service has information about the routes that were taken. It's also interesting to know that the first slaves in the United States were from Ireland.

Thank you Emerson for spending this blustery morning with the Pittsford Rotary Club and sharing your stories.

HAPPY DOLLARS & FINES: No fines this week, but all 16 happy dollars went to Dion's travel jar. Pat Mallery gave \$2 to Dion's jar. Pete Crooker put in \$3. The first for a good time at the Taste of Pittsford, the second for the foot of snow we had last night, and the third for Bob Vukosic who is teaching a course at RIT. Rick Haverty gave \$1 and kudos to Pete Crooker for being out all night plowing and still making the meeting. Peggy Albrecht gave \$2 because the new attendance sheets are making it easy to keep track of things and she also wanted to thank everyone who paid their meeting fee today with exact change! Lynn kicked in some cash because she just returned from Austria. Although she wasn't able to make a meeting while there she did meet a group of Rotarians at the airport. Bruce Spector gave because his daughter's lacrosse team won their championship.



Gaven Hurley chipped in because the Taste of Pittsford was a success (and he can relax a little now). Jim Murphy's son made the Lacrosse team, and his family has a pair of hairless cats with big ears! Ed Francis gave because he had a great time at the tasting and acknowledged Gaven's efforts. Fred Gallina's son Ben will have a recital at the Eastman School (now we know why Fred wanted to lead us in song!)

50/50 WINNER: The pot is nearing \$50! Today's lucky ticket holders, Brian Marcellus and Bill Pieper, weren't lucky enough to draw an ace.

ROTARY INFORMATION: There were a few words about the overall budget last week and I covered club operations. Here is the breakdown of money that has been expended from the club Foundation so far this year...

Net income from fund raising = about \$13,000 - before Taste of Pittsford funds.

Camp Haccamo -	\$3,175 (includes expenses for carnival & fireman's band concert)
Dictionary Project -	\$1,403 (Pittsford & Kenya)
Interact -	\$700
Youth Exchange -	\$587
Church Street Christmas Party -	\$570
Cub Scout Packs -	\$403
Little League -	\$400
Food Cupboard -	\$357
Green Acres -	\$345
Founder's Day -	\$325
Halloween Fest -	\$323

Special Olympics -	\$250
Operation Food Basket -	\$200
Benincasa Hospice -	\$200
Pittsford Safe Celebration -	\$100

This represents about \$9,300 in expenditures. We have a couple of remaining expenses for the final three months of the year. There will be \$2,000 for student service awards and about \$1,000 for the fishing derby. We will incur about \$150 in expenses for our outbound exchange student and the monthly stipend for Dion continues (\$80 per month). We'll also have some expenses for sending Dion and Samantha to the District Conference. The board has also approved an additional \$200 for a Cub Scout banner, \$200 for a vacuum cleaner at Day Star, and another \$100 for the Pittsford Safe celebration. The board approved a minimum of \$2,000 – maximum of \$3,000 of the funds raised by the taste of Pittsford for the Habitat for Humanity project in Rochester. A 10% share of the Taste of Pittsford profits will be added to the permanent fund.

Note – the numbers presented here are to give the club an overview of our finances, it does not represent a full accounting of the Foundation. The full set of numbers can be obtained from Foundation treasurer Roger Zaenglein.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: “The best portion of a good man's life: his little, nameless unremembered acts of kindness and love.” - **William Wordsworth**

JUST FOR FUN: From the desk of Harry Womeldorf... a few other quotes.

- ♣ “The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending and having the two as close together as possible.” (George Burns)
- ♣ “Santa Claus has the right idea -- visit people only once a year.” (Victor Borge)
- ♣ “Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint.” (Mark Twain)
- ♣ “I was married by a judge. I should have asked for a jury.” (Groucho Marx)
- ♣ “What's the use of happiness? It can't buy you money.” (Henny Youngman)
- ♣ “A woman drove me to drink -- and I hadn't even the courtesy to thank her.” (W.C. Fields)
- ♣ “It takes only one drink to get me drunk. The trouble is, I can't remember if it's the thirteenth or the fourteenth.” (George Burns)

OTHER CLUB / DISTRICT EVENTS

- **Mar 27 - District Assembly** Bath, NY @ Haverling High School, 8:45 am.
- **Apr 24 - Brockport Rotary Club 13th Annual Italian Festa Dinner** - Ziti & Meatballs, Salad, Rolls Coffee & Desert Live Entertainment Continuous Serving 11:30 am - 5:30 pm. Brockport Elks Lodge 4400 Sweden Walker Road (Rte. 260) Proceeds to disabled children & community projects in Brockport, New York. Adults \$6.00 Under 5 Free Contact Norm Knight @ 585-638-5371
- **Apr 24 - German Fest at Camp Haccamo, East Rochester Rotary** - Starts at 6:00pm. The cost is \$20 per person and it includes dinner, wine, beer, or soft drinks, plus entertainment. The money will be used to support our exchange students and our centennial project. For more information and ticket request call Volker Hausin 381-5485 or Joyce McChesney 670-9749
- **Apr 30-May 04 - 2004 District Conference -Valley Forge**
- **May 16 - Rotary Day at the Ball Game honoring Bill Farrell**
 - Tickets will be available from your club ball game rep and if you don't have one tell your club president to contact Norm Boughton at nbought1@rochester.rr.com or by calling 315-986-3141.
 - Bill Farrell was a member of the Rush-Henrietta Rotary Club and served the children's camps of Monroe County by serving as the first President of what is now the Wegman's

LPGA presented by Lincoln-Mercury, after Rotary took it over. Bill also served as President of the Red Wings

• **May 22 - Brighton Rotary's First Golf Tournament**

- Ravenwood Golf Club, Victor. Shotgun start at 12:30 - For details and printable entry form [click here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

On-Going –

- Pittsford Food Cupboard, 2-hour shifts on Tuesdays or Fridays between 10:00am and 2:00pm and special events.

22 March – Ronald McDonald House Dinner

22 May – 7th Annual **Fishing Derby**

24 July – **Doug Emblidge / Pittsford Rotary Golf Tournament** at Greystone Golf Club.

MEETING SCHEDULE & SPEAKERS

If you know someone who would be an interesting speaker please contact Pat Mallery for scheduling.

***** **NEXT WEEK** *****

24 March: Anthony Sciolino, family court judge - The Juvenile Drug Treatment Court. (Greeter – Jim Cameron)

31 March: Patience Long - Volunteers of America. (Greeter – Jim Murphy)

7 April: Jerry Ciccone, Marketing Manager – Canadian American Transportation Systems will speak about the Fast Ferry. (Greeter – Ed Francis)

14 April: Joe Hossenlopp of Camp Haccamo (Greeter – Russ Crook)

21 April: Marian Turner, Empire State Special Olympics (Greeter – Mary Alice Price)

28 April: Monroe County District Attorney Mike Green (Greeter – Bruce Spector)

5 May: Kevin Lane will fill us in on Cub Scouts (Greeter – Bob Vukosic)

12 May: TBD (Greeter – Chris Leone)


19 May: Paul Spiegel will speak about the history of South Main Street (Greeter – Lynn Freshman)

HELPFUL ROTARY LINKS:

<http://www.rotary.org> - Rotary International

<http://www.rotary7120.org> - Our District

<http://www.pittsfordrotary.org> - Our club's website

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President Elect – John Bernacki		Community Service
Vice President – Pat Mallery		Ray Robbins – Fund Raising
Secretary – Jennel Dillon		Pete Crooker – Rochester Projects
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