



The Accelerator



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER of THE ROTARY CLUB OF PITTSFORD, NY

Meets every Wednesday – Pittsford Library @ 7:00 am

August 1, 2007

This Week's Reporters: Jim Cameron and Jerry Gambino

Photographer: Jerry Gambino

Editor: Jerry Gambino

Editor Emeritus: Ray Robbins

August is Membership and Extension Month

Today's Rotary Team: Past President Lynn Freshman, Set Up: Malcolm Bugler, Paul Stuart and Ray Robbins, Invocation: John Belgiorno, Raffle Tickets: Malcolm Bugler, Collection & Attendance: Malcolm Bugler, Happy Dollars: John Belgiorno, Song: "Take Me Out to the Ball Game", 50/50 Raffle: Paul Stuart.

Our Program: Unshackle Upstate by Sandra Parker

Attendance: Guests: Speaker Sandra Parker and Honorary Member Jan Smith, with 31 members for a total of 33 attendees.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

IF YOU HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT: If you have an announcement to make at a club meeting please provide the details to the newsletter writers either by paper copy or by email to bruce@spectors.org.

Past President Lynn Freshman presided over the meeting due to vacationing President Pete Crooker's absence. We are quickly coming upon our Club's duty week at Camp Haccamo which will be August 6—10. Bruce Spector has arranged to have greeters from our club, provide evening snacks for staff, and have members on call. On August 7 we will have the Firemen's Band Concert and picnic. The picnic is at 5:30 and the concert is at 6PM. **THERE WILL BE NO WEDNESDAY MORNING MEETING SINCE THE AUGUST 7 PICNIC SERVES AS THE MEETING!** Our cooks will be Jim Murphy, Bob Vukosic, and Ray Cornelius who will fire up the coals at about 4:30 PM.

On August 9 at 7AM the Club's Board of Directors will have their monthly meeting at Amica Insurance.

August 10 is the day of the Camp Haccamo Carnival and we will be making popcorn, cotton candy, and sno cones as in the past. It should be a well attended event since all campers over the course of the summer are eligible to attend.

Jerry Gambino reminded members of the District 7120 Red Wing baseball game consisting of a picnic at 12:30 PM and the game at 1:35 PM. Four members with family and friends will attend. Please see Jerry ASAP if you are interested in attending. The deadline for ordering actually expired on July 27 but an attempt can be made to obtain tickets.



Our annual golf event will be held at Victor Hills Country Club on August 13. So far we have 30 hole sponsors and about 36 people signed up to play so far. Please consider becoming a hole sponsor or playing in this very important fund raising event.

Jim Cameron's raffle for a weekend at the Esperanza Mansion on Keuka Lake has been very successful, so far raising \$1055. Hopefully more tickets will be sold at the golf event.



August 16 is the date of the Camp Haccamo Senior Ball, with more details to follow. September 16 marks the second Town of Pittsford Fair entitled "Pittsford Celebrates". We will sell chicken meals as part of our "Birds for Words" program.

Tom Gunter-Kremers is our representative with Habitat for Humanity and is looking for volunteers to help build a new house. The following dates are available:

8/28, 9:45 AM—4PM, drainage and stone.

9/5, 8:45 AM—4PM, lay block.

9/20, 8:45 AM—4PM, first floor walls.

9/27, 8:45 AM—4PM, first floor deck.

10/20, 8:45 AM—4PM, install siding.

Please consider volunteering your time to this very worthy charity.

Pam Wright gave us advance notice of a Hike for Haccamo coming up in October jointly with other Rotary Clubs. If anyone is interested in working with Pam, please let her know.



UPCOMING EVENTS AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

CHAIRPERSONS – PLEASE SEND THE DETAILS OF YOUR EVENT – Date, Time, & Location.

August		
August 6 - 10	Camp Haccamo weekly duties by our Club.	Camp Haccamo
7	Firemen's Band Concert, 5:30 club picnic followed by 6 p.m. band concert (No August 8 morning meeting)	Camp Haccamo
9	Board of Directors Meeting	Amica Insurance
10	Camp Haccamo Carnival, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.	Camp Haccamo
12	District 7120 Red Wing Game	Frontier Field
13	Golf Tournament	Victor Hills Golf Club 1450 Brace Road Victor, NY 14564
16	Camp Haccamo Senior Ball	Camp Haccamo
September 16	Pittsford Celebrates "Birds for Words" where we sell barbecue chickens.	In back of the Pittsford Library

Our Speaker Sandra Parker of the Rochester Business Alliance



Vice President Paul Stuart introduced our distinguished speaker Sandra Parker, President and CEO of the Rochester Business Alliance. She has been a leader in the "Unshackle Upstate" coalition of Chambers of Commerce from Rochester, Buffalo, Syracuse, and Utica. She recently won the Athena Award as one of the most influential women in Rochester.



Sandra related an experience she had early on in her role as President of the RBA. In January 2005 she had the task of giving a speech regarding the economy of the Rochester area. After thinking about it, truthfully all she could give was a series of very gloomy statistics leading to a cloudy outlook in the future. This speech kindled a passion to reverse the many negative trends in Upstate New York business. Together with the Buffalo and Syracuse Chambers of Commerce she started the Unshackle Upstate coalition in March of 2006.

Now there are over 56 organizations representing 32,000 employers employing 1.2 million residents as part of this very large coalition organized to create change. In 2007 we have the first new state government in New York in over 12 years, so the time is right to lobby for change.

Some of the gloomy statistics are:

- Rochester has 3% negative business growth in the past year.
- Rochester has .5% negative population growth last year.
- New York State is losing more population than any other state in the country.
- We have the highest tax burden, workmen's compensation laws are onerous (only California is worse).
- New York has the highest Medicaid costs.
- New York has the largest state government.

The goals of the coalition have been to lower the premiums for workmen's compensation, repeal the Wickes Law dealing with the need for subcontractors on all public building projects, and repeal of the Scaffold Law placing all blame for mishaps at work on the employer. Also, New York State needs to lessen Medicaid cost growth and shrink the size of the state government. Finally, we need low cost energy programs to mitigate costs for firms considering relocating from our area.

There has been a renewed focus from the state government in Albany on the plight of Upstate New York. Governor Spitzer has pledged his support. In March of 2007 the coalition succeeded in lowering workmen's compensation rates by 20.5%, so we are now 18th highest in the country versus 2nd—a significant improvement.

Sandra and her coalition have successfully raised \$325,000 through marketing efforts and rallies across Upstate New York. The marketing campaign focuses on our loss of young people, the brain drain, and high taxes. Considerable work lies ahead, but a great start has been made by Sandra Parker and the coalition to help alleviate the economic troubles in our area.

HAPPY DOLLARS

Peggy Albrecht—Great talk by Speaker Sandra Parker.

Paul Stuart—Wonderful speech by Sandra Parker.

Billy Pieper—His niece is visiting from Connecticut for a U or R swimming camp.

Jack Pickering—He is celebrating his 6th wedding anniversary.

Pam Wright—Great talk plus scooter dollar for last week.

Malcolm Bugler—Celebrating his first wedding anniversary.

Gail Donofrio—Celebrating her 26th wedding anniversary.

50/50: Jackpot \$61, Jack Pickering won a breakfast instead.

ROTARY INFORMATION: Please check out <http://www.rotary.org/foundation/index.html>

OTHER CLUB / DISTRICT EVENTS

The June 2007 *District Newsletter* has been published at <http://www.rotary7120.org/DistrictNewsletter.cfm>

MEETING SCHEDULE & SPEAKERS

If you know someone who would be an interesting speaker, contact Paul Stuart for scheduling.

DATE	SPEAKER	PROGRAM	GREETER	RAFFLE TICKETS
8/08/07		No meeting due to August 7 picnic.	Jack Pickering	Kevin O'Grady
8/15/07	Carl Helbig	Messenger Post Newspapers	Bill Pieper	Jack Pickering
8/22/07	Hen Goemans	U.S. Foreign Policy from a European's Perspective	Dennis Price	Bill Pieper
8/29/07	Gail Donofrio	Know Your Member	Mary Alice Price	Dennis Price
9/05/07	Charles Brown	Center for Excellence in Math and Science		
9/12/07	Ellie Phillips	Preventing Dental Diseases		
9/19/07	John Hall	District Governor		
9/26/07	Mary Alice Price	Pittsford School District		

HELPFUL ROTARY LINKS:

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

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

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

[NAZARETH ROTARACT](#) - Rotaract

The Rotary Club of Pittsford, New York		1-800-867-0513 x-56312
<u>2007-2008 Club Officers</u>		<u>2007-2008 Board of Directors</u>
President – Peter Crooker		Club Service – Mary Alice Price
President Elect – Bob Vukosic		Pittsford Community Service—Richard Colby
Vice President – Paul Stuart		Fund Raising—Lynn Freshman and Bob Vukosic
Secretary – Jerry Gambino		Out of Pittsford Community Service—Pat Mallery
Treasurer – Kevin O'Grady		Vocational Service—Jim Cameron
Past President – Lynn Freshman		International Service—Matt Wahl
Sergeant-At-Arms – John Belgiorno		Membership – Bob Vukosic
		Public Relations – Fred Kopp

FOUNDATION OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF PITTSFORD (2007-2008)		
Chair – Jim Murphy	<i>Other Voting Members:</i>	Don Henderson
Club President – Peter Crooker	John Bernacki	Bruce Spector
Treasurer – Jack Pickering	Ric Juskiewicz	

