

# SPOKES

FROM THE ROTARY CLUB OF PENN YAN  
BOX 512, PENN YAN, NY 14527

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pyrotary](http://www.facebook.com/pyrotary) Website: <http://py-rotary.weebly.com/>  
*Please Join Us! Tuesdays at Noon – Top of the Lake – 301 Lake Street, Penn Yan*



VOL: 94 – No. 8  
August 25, 2015

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District 7120 website:  
<http://portal.clubrunner.ca/50098>

Rotary International:  
<https://www.rotary.org/en>



## Celebrating Youth Exchange



Part of today's meeting was dedicated to giving a hearty welcome to our new exchange student, **Elias Tiilikainen** from Finland. He presented his sponsoring club's banner and a box of marvelously rich chocolates that rapidly made a circuit of the room for sampling.

Elias hails from a small city of 55,000, Kotka, in Southeast Finland, about 75 miles east of Helsinki, the national capital. His mother is a school principal, and his dad works in the Kotka port.

Elias is currently playing soccer and is looking forward to his principal sport, basketball. In Finland, he travelled to Estonia, Russia and Sweden for Basketball Tournaments. He is living with his first family, the Brays, who also hosted Dann two years ago. His host sister Kelly accompanied him to today's meeting and just returned from a tour of Europe with Dann's family. [See more below.]

He is attending Junior level classes here and will attend two more years of school in Finland when he returns. He contemplates a career in commerce, but is undecided right now. He is open to exploring our culture and learning about America and our economy. He is well travelled in Europe, visiting most northern European nations as well as Spain and Turkey. He likes Art and Playstation. In school he has taken courses in psychology, philosophy, religion, Russian and Finnish language, music, chemistry, physics, and history. A school week is about 30 hours plus sports time.

His host family for the next 3 months or so is Jeff and Kristen Bray, 2392 Widow Hill Rd. Their contacts are: phone – 536-8869; email – [k2bray@gmail.com](mailto:k2bray@gmail.com).

## Kelly Bray gives a narrated tour of Europe

Linking up with **Dann** and his family in the Netherlands, **Kelly Bray** took off for Brussels, Paris, the Mediterranean coast of France near San Tropez, Verona, Venice and Amsterdam. Places of note were the Louvre and the Mona Lisa, the Eiffel Tower, the Arc de Triumph, the Love Lock Bridge, the old Roman amphitheater...play performance every evening (not 120 degrees F at night), the Grand Canal of Venice and Saint Mark's plaza, Rembrandt's Night Watchmen and the red district of Amsterdam. (continued)

"Italian gelato is fabulous! Baguettes...well, there were too many of them. I showed the family what a real breakfast was...eggs, cheese and meat. They usually have bread and cheese for breakfast and lunch. But, they stop every day at 10:30 for a coffee break, and Lattes are really good."

In Verona, Italy, there was the Romeo and Juliet balcony...hmmm...it really exists. "I saw the French Lady Liberty...but I've never been to NYC to see the real, larger one. The Anne Frank home was something special to see. Dutch apple pie is to die for, and our first meal in France was pizza. I wore a dress while touring as the family always dressed up and wore make-up...unlike the way we travel in the USA. "

## News and Notes of interest

**Larry L** sends the news that he joined the Auburn Rotary this week! Best wishes to him and Diane. He reports great times with the grandchildren. 47 Oak Street, Auburn, NY 13021

**Sue A** reports that she was the recipient of four cases of lightly, lovingly used children's books which she will use to continue stocking the Red Book Shelves at various schools, agencies and offices where young families with toddlers will visit. If you see any Red Book Shelf that is empty or poorly stocked, call Sue.



*Sue, Heather, Kayla and Morgan Andersen are helping two ONSEYAWA campers select prizes for putting a ring on a peg while another waits to toss in the Penn Yan Ring Toss game.*

**Ef** and wife, **Susan**, were given special accolades for all their efforts on behalf of Camp ONSEYAWA. Also helping, **Steve M, Rob S, Jeff** and **Diane K**, and the **Andersen** family staffed the game and set up other games and decorations.

**Jeff K** proposed that our gift to the District Governor, **DG Bill**, when he visits us next week could be generous match of any \$5 bill members put in their Foundation Envelope at the Welcome desk. Put the \$5 in there before the end of the meeting at Camp Cory and it will become a \$20 donation (thanks to the generosity of an anonymous gift).

The September 15<sup>th</sup> Picnic at the Branchport State Park will start at 4:30 PM. **Diane** and **Jeff** will furnish grilled sausages and hamburgers, coffee, tea, colas and table service. Members are asked to bring a side dish to pass. Sign-up sheet is going around...check for it and plan on coming. Rotaract and Interact are invited, and plan on seeing some other visiting Rotarians.

**Sue A.** has started collecting coats for the needy. Winter is coming, so check your closets and ask your friends for cast off usable coats. The distribution date will be October 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Diane** was thanked by many as they got personal copies of photos of themselves at the Steak Out.

**Sue A** and her daughters were commended by an appreciative club for their obvious commitment to serving others.

**Whit** was asked to take a bow for putting on one more great Steak out. Thanks to **Gail** for all she does, including playing the piano so that we could sing a few Rotary classics.



## Membership Extension Theme is almost done

...and you can get on the band wagon with little or no effort. All you have to do, in the next week, is tell a few friends or business acquaintances what you think is so special about our Rotary Club and our commitment to service. Then bring them to the picnic on the 15<sup>th</sup> and have them meet the Rotary family of clubs. Ideally, you would propose them to the September 8<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, but President Bob will hold a special board meeting if needed so that we can have your friend included in the October Induction Ceremony.

## *Birthdays coming up*

Dave Hoffman	8/27
Stephen Miller	8/28
Jeff Krans	8/30
Stefan Lewandowski	9/24
Jack Clancy	9/25
Sandie Minster	9/25
Ed Balsley	9/27

## *Fun and Fellowship this week*

We had a groaning salad bar with chicken or steak. Weather was a bit cooler, dry and pretty much cloudless. Attendance included one visiting Rotarian from Dundee, **Segrid Dombrowski**, who is also **Whit's** daughter: one prospective member, **Bob Smith**; **Kelly** Bray, host family sister to **Elias** and **Dann**; new exchange student, **Elias**; and **Patrick**, grandson of **Dean** and **Mary Ellen**. It was low at 18 Rotarians as several were off at Camp ONSEYAWA for lunch with the campers.

## *What's Happening Next*

- 8/29 Camp tear down**
- 9/1 Lunch at Camp CORY** and District Governor Bill's annual visit
- 9/8 Board meeting** at 8:00 LNB; and **Assembly** at Top of the Lake
- 9/15 Picnic** at the Branchport State Park
- 10/18 Eastern Cities Dinner**

Thanks to our Club Service volunteers for the month of September:

Set up	Rob S
Attendance	Diane K
Pledge Song	Jeff K
Rotary Minute	Tom M
Prayer	Stacy W
Sergeant	Sue A

## *Autumn in Rotary means training and seminars*

President Bob has shared the list of events that might be of some interest to club members:

- 9/19 Literacy Seminar in Clifton Springs

- 9/26 Membership Seminar at Harris Beach Office
- 10/3 Full Grants Seminar in Hammondsport
- 10/10 Membership Seminar in Dansville
- 10/17 PETS I in Mount Morris and Grants Seminar (partial)
- 10/18 Eastern Cities Dinner in Rochester
- 11/7 Rotary Leadership Institute in Canandaigua
- 11/15 Foundation Breakfast at FLCC (12:00-3:00 pm) ... NEW PLACE AND NEW TIME

## *Rotary Minute –*

**Stacy W** shared that the current camp session is the 60<sup>th</sup>...an experience in giving love to special needs kids and perhaps more importantly their families who get a brief respite. Thursday night this week is the dress up dance (we donated old costumes last year) with a live band, and Friday night is the awards night and “graduation” celebration. Some of those that age-out will come back in a few years as counselors. Saturday morning is the “pack up” event for sponsoring clubs like outs.

Stacy also reminds us that a host family is a vital part of the cultural exchange, immersing the student in a variety of activities while here. The host family plays a large role in offering the student a view of our country and gains the opportunity to learn about a new culture from a young leader. Hosting is a tremendous experience in which you can share in a young person's hopes and dreams and develop a lifelong connection with a student and family from another country. Host families in the Youth Exchange program come in all shapes and sizes. They can be Rotarians or non-Rotarians, and may include young children, older children, or no children at all. If you have a neighbor who might be a good host family or if you are interested, please contact Stacy Wyant at 536-9589 or email him at [stacywyant@storkinsurance.com](mailto:stacywyant@storkinsurance.com).

## *What is Eastern Cities Dinner?*

Decades ago, when there were much fewer clubs, one of the earliest clubs, Rochester, as was the custom of the day, started hosting a big regional fellowship dinner. It continues today with guests coming from Toronto, Buffalo, Syracuse, Corning, Ithaca and other cities in New York and the northeast. Our speaker this year is a Trustee of the Foundation and Polio Plus Chair, Michael McGovern who will undoubtedly celebrate the soon to be felt end of polio worldwide.

## *Join in a project – Feel good*

**Tom M**, on behalf of the former **Stephany Bates** and **Katie Smeenk**, extends this invitation to the Pro Action 50th Anniversary Poverty Simulation that will be held in Yates County on Tuesday, September 22nd at St. Michael's Church in Penn Yan from 9 AM until 12:00.

A poverty simulation provides an opportunity for you to experience a month of poverty in four, 15 minute weeks. It is a powerful, realistic portrayal of the experiences and choices that someone living in poverty experiences every day.

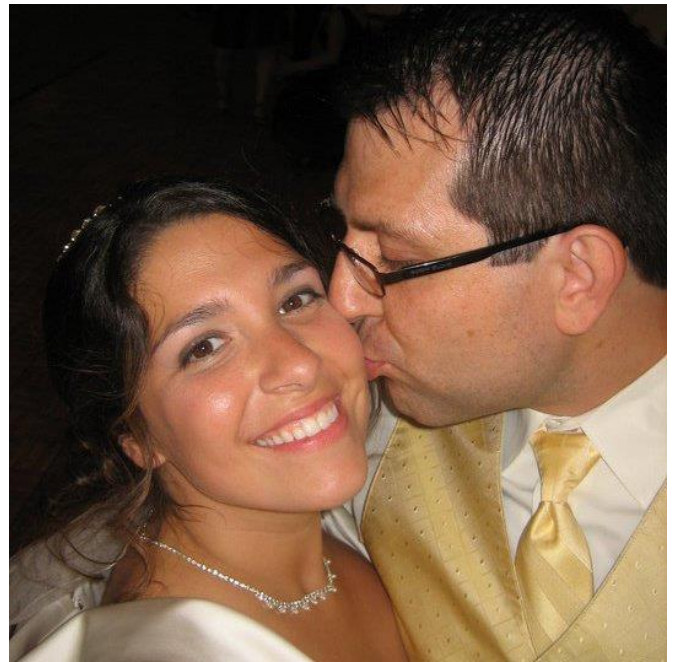
Pro Action has been conducting Poverty Simulations for just over a year now. The response from participants has been overwhelmingly positive. We are offering this opportunity to attend a Poverty Simulation in the Yates County community so that by investing three hours, you can attend and gain the insight that others have found by participating.

Please join us – it's a great experience and a professional development opportunity not to be missed. [Register Now!](#)

## *A few candid shots of our members outside of Rotary*



*Ryan and son relaxing in the hammock by the lake*



*Stefan and Mary Ann, not that long ago*

## *Doing a Make-Up Meeting?*

Club members are encouraged to make up for missed meetings whenever possible. One can make up by:

- Visiting neighboring clubs or attending a club while on vacation.
- Log in on District 7150's Internet Club [www.rotaryclubNY1.com](http://www.rotaryclubNY1.com)
- Attend Interact or Rotaract meetings
- Work on a club or district committee
- Attend a district function
- When you have made up a meeting, please be sure to notify Chris Bergman for proper credit. [hatzcb@yahoo.com](mailto:hatzcb@yahoo.com)



"If we ever reach the point where we can feel that the greatest and noblest things that Rotary could possibly do have already been done, at that very moment our organization will begin to disintegrate."  
– 1943-44 Charles L. Wheeler- San Francisco Club

## *Penn Yan's Friends of Rotary –*

Friendly's Dodge Chrysler Jeep

<http://www.friendlydodgechryslerjeep.com/>

Lyons National Bank

[www.bankwithlnb.com](http://www.bankwithlnb.com)

Roto Salt & Remeecasting

<http://www.remeecasting.com/>

Eaves Family Dental

<http://www.eavesdental.com/>

Birkett Mills

[www.thebirkettmills.com](http://www.thebirkettmills.com)

Carey's Farm and Home Centers

[www.careyspennyan.com](http://www.careyspennyan.com)

Steve Owens and Classic Café

<http://classiccafedundee.com/>

Rooster Hill Winery

[www.roosterhill.com](http://www.roosterhill.com)

Simmons – Rockwell

[www.simmons-rockwell.com](http://www.simmons-rockwell.com)