

SPOKES

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

Facebook: 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



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<http://portal.clubrunner.ca/50098>

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



Yates Community Center



Great progress has been made in making the Yates Cultural and Recreational Resource a reality. Located on North Main Street the fledgling center has had Stork Athletic Fields for several years now. This summer, the center's first building was erected and will be dedicated Friday December 11th during their open house Noon to 4 PM Ribbon cutting will be at 2 PM. Rotarians are encouraged to attend and sign up as members. Three big door prizes will be drawn and there will be loads of fellowship and food.

Pam Griffith, executive director fought with incipient laryngitis to appraise us of the many successes and new direction of YCRR....now called Yates Community Center. See: www.yatescommunitycenter.org or call 315-694-1071 to speak with Pam or a volunteer.

The fields are in good use by Football and Lacrosse teams, and the old center (closer to downtown by two driveways) has been actively used as a fitness center. The new building has been equipped with the exercise equipment from the old facility and more Nautilus machines. The old facility is in the process of being upgraded and converted to meeting space for the agency's "You're Welcome" program where they teach customer service skills in collaboration with BOCES. Anyone wanting the several days of training and the certificate from a hotel and dining accrediting organization need only pony up \$70. If you are unemployed, they work with the County Workforce Development agency and give the training as well as help with a job search and placement in local tourism-oriented businesses.

The Center is also helping organize pre-school training through the program K-Train. The agency's focus is on equipping the family with the skills and focus of preparing the child for school. Megan Trombley, school counselor, is on board with the Center in helping prepare youth activities for after school. The emphasis is still on building better family skills and relationships between youth. Focus on Fun.

The Community Center is becoming more important and better utilized. They are growing. Pam needs our Rotary interest and asks us to "help fan the fire we have started." She gave special thanks to Carl Schwartz, who for many years provided an office where the agency could work and grow. Pam touched briefly on a community swimming pool. Her advice is: "If the community wants a pool, it needs to form a committee, get organized, get all the critical players involved and raise the money." The Center will provide the space when the community wants a pool.

News and Notes of interest

President Bob offered the deck of cards to **Ryan** and this week's lucky ticket holder, **Jeff**, who both drew aces, but no winner. The Pot has grown to \$65 as we look for that six of diamonds.

Jeff missed last week because he was getting a check-up at the Cleveland Clinic. He is happy because they don't want to see him anymore!

Tom H, our chronicler of all things grapey, mentioned that pruning has begun...and while things are a little slower, he is gearing up for advertising and donation solicitation. It is the **50th Rotary Day** on the Radio and our big on-air and on-line auctions.



Gail and Witt Yonge took center stage while **President Bob** gave them a plaque which honors them for their hosting **25 years of Steak Outs**.

John S remarks that bad things come in groups of three. First, Peggy bumped her head nicely; then John used a chair instead of a step ladder, flipped the chair, fell and bruised more than his butt; and finally, the mantel piece, loaded with heirlooms came unglued and crashed to the floor. It is now safe to ride in John's car or visit his home.

Bob and **Jackie** are welcoming kids today...hosting sixteen for the holiday, thanks to the Showboat for the loan of beds and a private party on Thursday.

Bob Smith has the grandkids for the week and is very happy...check back next week.

Elias had made the basketball team and will play their first game next Monday. See schedules online.

Gail Yonge, a school music teacher, was impressed (badly) with our rendition of Happy Birthday for **Dyke Smith**. Had she known how badly we render birthday greetings, she might have contributed the fee necessary for a "proper" singing of the song.

Kudos are sent to the team that produced the dinners and theater presentation of *Charlie Brown's Christmas*. By all measures it was a smashing success.

Carol W rose and asked that the club spend whatever is necessary to give out Santa Bucks that would result in 200 hot dogs in the hands of kids. Motion passed.

Projects needing our attention

Dean M – bell ringing for Christmas for the Needy is right around the corner!!!! We will be out there on December 1st. Bundle up and let your smile warm up. We always do a great job and it is FUN.

BYRNE DAIRY

- 7-9 John Socha
Bob Shrader
Jorgen Overgaard
- 9-11 Tom Hunt
Dave Hoffman
- 11-1 Jackie Shrader
Tina Miller
- 1-3 Sue Andersen
Steve Miller
- 3-5 Mary Ellen Morgan
Patrick Tolbert

TOPS FOOD MARKET

- 7-9 Jeff Krans
Diane Krans
Deb Fabris-Coon
- 9-11 Sandi Perl
Tom May
Sandie Minster
- 11-1 Bob Smith
Evelyn Emerson
- 3-5 Rob Schwarting
Carol Worth

Starshine is coming and Tom May would love help at Community Bank welcoming and entertaining children during Starshine. He wants an email of interest and he will give more details.

Camp ONSEYAWA party – December 6th. Organizers John and Paula Kenny could use cookies and helpers from 2 to 4 at the Serven Fire Hall.

The second family **reading night at the Library** is on December 9th at PYPL. 23 came out for the one in November....a success.



Birthdays coming up

Sandi	Perl	12/2
Elias		12/15
Stacy	Wyant	12/20
Stu	Porter	12/30

Fun and Fellowship this week

Top of the Lake presented us with a wonderful buffet of salad, meat and bean chili and cornbread. Great time around the tables. The weather was seasonable. Windy and crisp. Temps in the lower forties. 29 at table, including three guests:

- Pam Griffith, Ex. Dir. Community Center
- Gail Yonge, honoree
- Elias, our exchange student from Finland



What's Happening Next

12/1	Bell Ringing, see schedule
12/1	PYA Chorus song program
12/4	Star Shine
12/8	Board Meeting, LNB conference room 8AM
12/8	Club Assembly and Student Achievement
12/15	Tom May's biography
12/18	Holiday Party and annual Paul Harris Giving tree at the Schwartz's home, 5:30 PM
12/22	NO MEETING
12/29	NO MEETING
1/5	Welcome back – regular meeting

1/10	Milt Matthews District Governor Elect Exchange reception at Schwarting/Worth and Rooster Hill Winery
1/12	Board Meeting, LNB conference room 8AM
1/12	Argentinian DGE presentation and Assembly

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

Set up	Amy Hoffman
Attendance	Bob Smith
Pledge Song	Patrick Tolbert
Rotary Minute	Don Oakleaf
Prayer	Sarah Creveling
Sergeant	Leon Frontier

A nice holiday blessing

May we be inspired with gratitude for the wondrous gifts that are ours and be filled with the resolve to share them with all who are in need.

May we hold precious one another and the world which provides us with sustenance and beauty.

And may a song of thanksgiving be on our lips To the creator and sustainer of life.

-Rev Marta Flanagan

Thanksgiving Feasts around the World

The concept behind Thanksgiving celebrations, held with a considerable zeal in every nook and corner of U.S., is similar to the August Moon Festival in China, Tet Trung Thu in Vietnam, Succoth in Jewish communities, Kwanzaa in Africa, Pongal in India and Chusok in Korea. The list is endless. There are many difference in the festival's date, rituals and customs but the reason behind it remains the same, to thank God for a huge fruitful harvest.

In China, the Chinese celebrate August Moon festival that falls on the 15th day of 8th lunar month of their calendar. Chinese believe that the moon is roundest and brightest on this day. Below the heavenly moonlight, lovers speak their heart to each other. It is also known as Women Festival. Conventionally women are considered similes to warm and compassionate

virtues and have the gift of fertility, just like Mother Earth. Unlike the famous pumpkin pie, the Chinese delicacies consist of moon-cake. Friends and relatives convey their regard to each other by gifting moon cake.

In Rome, the Roman harvest festival of antiquity known as Cerelia was celebrated in the honor of the deity Ceres (Goddess of Corn). Their festival commenced on October 4th and it was a custom to present the first produced fruits, grains and animals to the Goddess. Music, parades and sports extended the glee of the ceremony.

In Brazil, the Brazilian thanksgiving is quite comparable to American thanksgiving. When the Ambassador of Brazil visited the U.S.A. at the invitation of the staff at the National Cathedral of Washington, D.C., he was enamored by the concept and brought it to his homeland. In southern Brazil, it is all about expressing gratitude to the Almighty for an enormous harvest. Though acclaimed for their Carnival celebrations, Brazilians put on a pretty grand Thanksgiving party.

In Korea, the celebration falls on the 15th of August, which is known as Chu-Sok (meaning "fall evening"). It begins on the night of the 14th and continues for three days. Koreans make a dish called 'Songpyon' unique for that occasion consisting of rice, beans, sesame seeds and chestnuts. Before eating the food, the family gathers beneath the moonlight, in remembrance of their ancestors and forefathers. The children dress in traditional dress and dance in a circle while asking for blessings.

Penn Yan's Friends of Rotary –

Friendly's Dodge Chrysler Jeep

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

Lyons National Bank

www.bankwithlnb.com

Roto Salt & Remeecasting

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

Eaves Family Dental

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

As we probably all know, **in Canada**, Thanksgiving is celebrated on the second Monday of October. It seems that fall comes earlier up north.

Many Rotarians at the meeting or by email shared their hopes that everyone has a safe and joyous Thanksgiving with the friends and families this year.

Join in a project – Feel good

John & Paula Kenny (Waterloo Club and sparkplugs for Camp ONSEYAWA) are asking us to attend and assist in the Christmas Party for the ONSEYAWA campers. The party will be held on Sunday, December 6, 2015 from 2 to 4 at the Serven Fire Hall (near Waterloo). It would be greatly appreciated if each club could bring cookies or a snack for the party.

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
- 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

Birkett Mills

www.thebirkettmills.com

Carey's Farm and Home Centers

www.careyspennyan.com

Steve Owens and Classic Café

<http://classiccafedundee.com/>

Rooster Hill Winery

www.roosterhill.com

Simmons – Rockwell

www.simmons-rockwell.com