

SPOKES

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

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Please Join Us! Tuesdays at Noon – Top of the Lake – 301 Lake Street, Penn Yan



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

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



Board adopts a new Mission Statement

The mission of the Penn Yan Rotary Club is to provide a fellowship for inspired business, professional, and civic leaders with exceptional opportunities for leadership, humanitarian causes, and community service, while promoting integrity, understanding, and goodwill on a local, national, and international basis.

Part of the club met Saturday for a strategic retreat to examine the Club's strengths, weaknesses and opportunities and threats. Co-presidents Sandi and Tom lead us through the process while helping to tease out a consensus for where we are and where we might be going. It was pretty clear that we were good at somethings and not so good at others.

The meeting a took great leap forward when Leon shared some of his online research into the mission of Rotary Clubs. The statement above quickly captured our attention and with some tweaking by the board and officers, it was presented at the Assembly by the presidents.

The importance of the statement is that it states that there are three main focuses or "Pillars" of the club's mission: **Leadership, Humanitarian Causes, and Community Service.** Everything we do as a club must be in pursuit of these three. For example, as put by Bob S. "we are sponsoring and mentoring Interact and Rotaract to give those members chances to learn and practice the art of leading." Leon's project in the Congo, Seneca Fall Club's support of the Malawi Children's Village and our current year's support of the Orphanage in Nepal relate to our Humanitarian Causes. Community service takes many shapes, from Literacy, to benches on the Outlet Trail, and from Food Pantries to Christmas for the Needy.

As the session progressed, it was clear that each Avenue of Service focus within the club would have possible projects/programs which support one or all of the pillars. The committees which work for Club service, Community Service, International Service, Youth Service and Vocational Service each could focus on Leadership, Humanitarian and Community (Civic) service. For example, using the area of Leadership, the club service committee could plan leadership training for officers; the community service committee could convene a community leaders' forum on taking the next step in the 20/20 plan; the youth committee could hold a leadership retreat for the district's many Rotaract Clubs or send several students from Interact to RYLA;

Three teams looked at each of the Pillars and suggested possible programs and projects, some of which we already do. Those attending the retreat opined that we need to focus on one major project that galvanizes the interest of the club and becomes the signature project of the club. Rather than diluting our efforts by supporting a dozen causes, what one cause will become our defining signature program? The board and the club will have to work on making that choice, and it will then become a sustaining project supported by the next three presidents elect.

An important next step is for the Avenue chairs to get busy and build their teams. Everyone should be on one of the service teams. Once the service teams are back in business, it will be their responsibility to evaluate and propose projects or programs to the board.

- Club Service -
- Community Service -
- International Service - Leon
- Youth - Stacy
- Vocation - Rob

Included in Club Service are the important tasks of Membership and Public Relations. Literacy is found in Vocational Service.

News and Notes

Sona Dobronova visited the club to say hello. **Patrick** and **Bob S** are working to get her at the September 25th Interact meeting. Introduce her around some more and inspire some Interactors to think about an exchange abroad. Think of taking Sona on a trip...Mark and Alexa Gifford 1285 Elmira Rd. Penn Yan, NY 14527, just north of Dresden. 315-719-1199 (Mark) and 585-208-3677 (Alexa) mgifford3@rochester.rr.com

Giants won a squeaker. Anyone happy?

Steve and **Tina Miller** have some rather protracted elder care commitments in PA that causes them to visit and stay there for long visits. They feel they cannot give Rotary and Rotaract good value while they are absent so much and have taken leave. **Mary Ellen** has agreed to step in for the interim as advisor to the Rotaract Club.

Rob asked for volunteers to help the Vocational Team with organizing the **Service Above Self Award** luncheon, probably in the November timeframe. We will be

soliciting nominations for model employees who give of them self to service to the community and organization. Its official – 2nd Annual Flights of Fancy: Finger Lakes Wine Classic is definitely a GO! It will be held May 20th, in spite of the District Conference being moved onto our reserved date.

Volunteer Opportunities

Looking for Rotarians to help out with a fun outdoor event on Saturday, September 24! Penn Yan Public Library and K-Train Kindergarten Readiness will be collaborating on our first **StoryWalk**. What's a StoryWalk? It's a picture book, broken down into individual signs and set up along a path. (In this case, the Keuka Outlet Trail.) The signs encourage physical activity along with helping little learners practice their reading skills. During a StoryWalk, the whole family gets involved, moving and reading together. Fun volunteer opportunities are available, including face-painting, handing out free food, helping families enjoy literacy-enhancing toys, giving away books, and helping make sure no one wanders off the trail. The event will be held Saturday, September 24 at the Cherry St. entrance to the Outlet Trail. Volunteers will be needed between 8:30 and 10:30am. **To volunteer**, please email Sarah at screvelling@pypl.org. **Donations** of gently-used children's books are also needed if you'd like to get involved in another way.

Club Member Engagement

From Rotary's Leadership Institute handouts for Part I

President Sandi sent around a survey of Member Satisfaction for us to complete and return. Please.

Rotary's Leadership Institute

This is one of the greatest programs for Rotarians and we in the Northeast have the premier teaching team in the World. Notices have begun to show up for the October 29th all day RLI seminar in Canandaigua. There are three basic sessions on Rotary, and a Graduate session for life-long learning.

Eastern Cities Dinner

It's time to go to Rochester for the annual Eastern Cities Dinner with our RI President. \$45 registration fee is split 50-50 with the club. Well worth your time.

Avenues of Service – My Rotary

• **Club Service** focuses on making clubs strong. A thriving club is anchored by strong relationships and an active membership development plan.

• **Vocational Service** calls on every Rotarian to work with integrity and contribute their expertise to the problems and needs of society. Learn more in *An Introduction to Vocational Service* and *the Code of Conduct*.

• **Community Service** encourages every Rotarian to find ways to improve the quality of life for people in their communities and to serve the public interest. Learn more in *Communities in Action: A Guide to Effective Projects* and this Community Service presentation (PPT).

• **International Service** exemplifies our global reach in promoting peace and understanding. We support this service avenue by sponsoring or volunteering on international projects, seeking partners abroad, and more.

• **Youth Service** recognizes the importance of empowering youth and young professionals through leadership development programs such as Rotaract, Interact, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, and Rotary Youth Exchange.

Birthdays coming up

Jack	Clancy	9/25
Sandie	Minster	9/25
Ryan	Hallings	9/27

Meetings (bold) / Events

Sep 20th	Picnic at Keuka Lake State Park
Sep 27th	Meeting
Oct 29 th	Rotary Leadership Institute
Nov 9th	Eastern Cities Dinner

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 Diane Krans for proper credit.