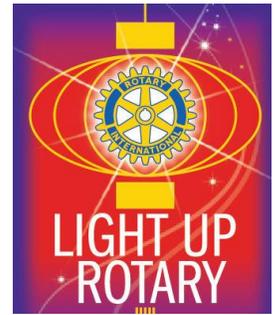


# SPOKES

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



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

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



## School Budget and New Plans

Superintendent Dennis Howard and business manager Kathy Milliman took to the podium to deliver a lay person's look at the PYCSD budget.

Dennis and Kathy described the major costs and revenues, which have bounced around a bit, but show a small upward trend of 1.7%, and because of the relief from State charge backs, (takeaways), the increase we feel at home is a 1.4% increase. It seems that such an increase might amount to about 15 cents per thousand dollars of assessed value.

Student needs dictated a few changes in staffing which was otherwise static. An aide for students with special educational needs was hired to accommodate students better. Two modified sports coaches were hired to handle the increased enrollment of youth in the sports. An interpreter was hired to assist a deaf student.

54% of the students in the district are receiving free or low cost lunches. The state and federal reimbursement for those meals and the availability of free surplus commodities that students want to eat conspire to impose a cost on the district. Not a big uptick, but an increase. Similarly, the shared cost of a school resource officer (police) was increased as well. Retirement contributions and health services costs were reduced by improvements in the stock market and changed plans. Overall, there were not dramatic, double digit threats to the taxpayer.

The Capital Improvement projects for the Middle School were moving forward predictably. Phase I, the roof, was reviewed and approved by the state. With that release, the project bid was awarded and is likely to be finished in August. Phase II, the repairs to floors, upgraded security, additional ventilation and other changes, is under review by the state. No answer is expected for at least 8 weeks.

The district will undertake a required 5-year Facility Assessment in this budget. It will point out the adequacy (educational and curriculum supportability) of facilities, conformance with safety and accessibility, and point out maintenance/replacement choices that have to be made. Studies like this are necessary as a planning device, and must be completed if the district wants state reimbursement for capital improvements.

The club rendered appropriate courtesies and a heavy dose of good natured heckling.

**VOTE at the ACADEMY gymnasium on Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, from noon to 8:00 PM. PLEASE VOTE!**



*Lesly Vasquez-Feria and her parents were guests of the club while Lesly was presented as Student of the Month by her teacher, Krista Bergquist. Lesly is about to graduate from the ESL (English as a Second Language) course and will attend FLCC in the American Sign Language course so that she can pay forward the gift of a new language. Superintendent Howard is on the right.*

**Bob Scharf** shared the podium today with a bit of club history. In 1980, **Jeff Krans** was inducted. Looking around the room, **Jack Clancy** was the only member inducted before that date. **Tom Hunt** and **Whit Yong** might be old timers too. In 1956, Rotary voted to open Camp ONSEYAWA at the BSA camp Babcock-Hovey. In 1971, we had 89 members. And, apropos of **Sake's** visit, in 1987, we hosted another Japanese exchange student.

## *Fun and Fellowship today*

Twenty Rotarians and six guests dined on grilled Prime Beef steaks, roasted potatoes and a most delectable broccoli salad (with an awesome creamy vinaigrette dressing). Our school superintendent took a great deal of good natured ribbing. There was a mostly clear sky, temperature in the mid-seventies, and strong winds. 4.5 to 5.0 inches of rain in the past two days meant there was a strong current in the outlet. John's shaggy dog story was about dead crows near Boston. Ask him!

## *What's Happening Next*

- 5/19 Susan Adnopez**, longtime volunteer at Camp ONSEYAWA, plans to tell us a story or two and challenge us.
- 6/16** Change over dinner at Showboat
- 6/17** Catholic Charities Honors Sandi Perl

- 7/21** Picnic at the Perl's
- 9/?** Rotary at Cory
- 9/1** District Governor's visit and picnic at the Branchport State Park

Thanks to our Club Service volunteers, who are:

	<u>MAY</u>
Set up	Stu P
Attendance	Tina M
Pledge, Song	Carl S
Prayer	Carol W
Sergeant	Jackie S



## *News and Notes*

**Road cleanup** was a soggy matter. **Stacy W** slogged his way through the west end, and volunteers for Celebrate Yates had done the east end. **Jorgen O** is talking about revisiting the road side in late July or August for the next round.

**Interact** chicken BBQ raised \$508 for the club. Thanks to all who stopped and purchased halves.

**Larry** shared that they have contracted to sell their house here and to buy a house in the southwest Auburn area to be nearer grandchildren. He intends to transfer membership to the Skaneateles sunrise club.

**Stu P, Ef A** and **Don O** are remaking the Camp ONSEYAWA carnival game. If anyone wants to see the fantastic results (lots of nice cartoons are painted on it), plan on attending the carnival this summer.

**Sake** and host mom **Paulina** attended lunch. Other times you can reach them at 2396 State Route 364, Penn Yan. Their phone is at 585-703-8737. They are off for a visit to Canada this weekend. And, if you have a piano at home, invite Sake to visit. The word is that she will win the forthcoming Exchange Student Talent Show with her phenomenal, exceptional, brilliant techniques at the piano. It was suggested that the club might want to take Sake to the "Open Mic" nights at the Arts Center on Thursdays where there is a pretty good piano to play.

Lots of great happiness was shared with **Sargent Jackie**. See the following short notes.

**Jeff and Diane** took a trip to Cleveland where Jeff visited the Cleveland Clinic and while there, they took in a game at Jacob's Field (Indians beat the Twins), did not try to take in the Cav's game that night (a squeaker – win) and Diane walked Jeff for hours as she was looking for the Cleveland Opera House—no luck. The height of their tale was giving the book "Unbored" to a grand daughter who was one day bored, read a suggestion from the book, and set about organizing and cleaning her bedroom. Darn!!!! That is one powerful book and Long's needs to stock many more copies. (*Unbored: the Essential Field Guide to Having Fun*, by Elizabeth Foy Larsen, is the guide and activity book every modern kid needs. Vibrantly designed, lavishly illustrated, brilliantly walking the line between cool and constructive, it's crammed with activities that are not only fun and doable but also designed to get kids engaged with the wider world. Hardback is \$17.)

**Dave H** and many others were happy for a great meeting and meal.

**Dr. Dave** was back and happy to be upstanding. And he reminded us that the weather today is much better than it was a year ago.

**Don O** is celebrating "birthday month" for his, Marie's and others, as is **Jack C.** whose wife and granddaughter share the same birthday.

**Carol W.** contributed generously for having been extraordinarily forgetful. ....more to be revealed.

**Sue A.**, consummate mom, was overjoyed by a visit from **Heater**; and by **Kristin** who donated her birthday money to the water project. **Morgan's** birthday was/is a joy as well.

**Tina M.** got to the meeting late and her tangled speech attested to her visit to the dentist. She thanked Steve and Dave for filling in for her at the welcome table.

An apology to **Kathy Milliman** was issued by our **Stacy W.** Apparently, when he presented a Safety Award at the Academy, he forgot to mention her involvement. He also mentioned that he was still accepting donations to help Kelly Gray make an exchange tour of Europe.

President **John** mentioned that Chelsie will be coming home this weekend....just in time to help at the motel and restaurant.

**Rob S.** apologized to **Evelyn** for thinking that she had hidden his pen and was preventing him for reporting these important club matters.

**Carl S.** led us in singing the National Anthem...that takes real courage with this club. Some of us were off key part of the time (perhaps most of the time), and others were harmonizing on third high or low. Carl also thanked us tax payers for absorbing the costs of the new classroom assistant...."Thorn is a real challenge in school."

**Evelyn** reported that **Dean Morgan** was home resting after a successful procedure to "blast" kidney stones. A card was circulated.

**Jeff** won the 50/50 of \$8.00.

## *Notes from the Board Meeting*

We are doing well financially. The Treasurer's report shows approved expenditures in accordance with the budget and our usual conservative approach to spending. The club is flush with cash from the Auction. The directors discussed the desirability to set some of the increased auction income aside for a larger project or to tide us over if we contemplate ending our auctions with the 50<sup>th</sup> next year.

The Board unanimously decided to award a second Career and Technical School scholarship. Each will be \$500 as they head off to colleges.

**Sue Andersen** reported the end of the current Interact year and her retirement as advisor. Sandi Perl has offered to stay on as co-advisor as the "adult in the room." A new volunteer co-advisor will need to learn the administrative duties from Sue A. The volunteer need not be a Rotarian, though that is ideal.

**Ef Adnopo** was appointed our representative to the Camp ONSEYAWA board.

The District Training Assembly that we will be running has been set for April 23<sup>rd</sup>. A request to use the Academy has been submitted by chair, **Stacy W.** This activity and the District Conference (Hershey, PA) on April 30<sup>th</sup> have an impact on our Auction in 2016.

Program Chair **Jackie S** reports that she is negotiating appearances with K-9, Alzheimer Association, Literacy, among many others. She reported that Pat at Camp Cory has asked us to plan a

September meeting at the Camp. Other important meeting dates and venues were mentioned.

Plans were begun to recognize Stephanie Bates' wish to be a Rotarian. Terri Beeker, Mary Worth, and Bruce Warfield were discussed as potential members.

The club will facilitate group seating at Sandi Perl's recognition celebration June 17<sup>th</sup>. Corry Stork wants to be included.

## *A look at some educational projects by other Rotary Clubs*

The Rotary Clubs of Laguna Sunrise and Elk Grove partnered to host a math competition for public middle school students on Pi Day - 3/14/15 at 9 am. They jointly developed the day's events and promoted it in each of the nine middle school math programs. The event included individual, team and construction events in which 65 students competed on seven teams. The event was held on the local community college campus to provide the students access to a future educational experience. The day also included motivation speeches for continuing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education from dignitaries and the Rotaract President from Sacramento State University. They used approximately fifty volunteers between Rotarians, Interactors, and high school and college math club students. They also fed the students and volunteers and provided entertaining games until the prize ceremony. Prizes were trophies and pins that incorporated the Pi theme.

Another club set out to teach the fundamentals of investing and preparing students for a successful financial future. This includes budgeting, balancing a checkbook, borrowing, credit scores, insurance, buying real estate and a car, and having a balanced investment portfolio to obtain financial goals. Every student is given a hypothetical \$100,000 to invest. They were judged on the type and performance of their portfolio (200 points for a balanced portfolio; 100 points for the growth of the portfolio over 6 months). The winning student earned a \$250 scholarship and the class got a pizza party. About 58 seniors in high school participate.

Rotaract Club of Phulbari conducted a Policy & Leadership Development, Training Workshop. The training was conducted for one day & the session was divided into two parts (theory and a technical workshop) Training was facilitated by several

lawyers and young entrepreneurs. The program was focused on giving youths a theoretical and practical basis for assuming the roles and responsibility of leading the community and making policies. In the end, they created bylaws for a national youth association. Different Group discussions were conducted and the gist of those discussions was compiled as a reference resource from the event. Participants were guided through the policies, constitution and bylaws that have been addressed and need to be addressed in the national constitution of Nepal. Policies & provisions of the UN which regard youth welfare were discussed extensively. Forty five youth from different backgrounds participated.



## *Our Sandi Perl to be honored*

**Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes  
Annual**

### ***Sharing the Light***

**Award Dinner to Honor**

**Sandi Pearl**

...and five other exemplary individuals. It will be held on Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at Hobart and William Smith Colleges' Scandling Center at 5:30 PM. \$45/person and club members are organizing a group to attend. See John Socha.



## *Join in a project – Feel good*

Let us know if a non-profit or community program needs help and it will show up here. Serving others brings out the best in a person and in a community.

## *Thinking about visiting?*

**Do you want some variety in your life?** OK... visit a neighboring club. It's fun. Let others know when you plan on going, and you expand the fellowship.

- **Canandaigua** – Meets Thursday 12:15 at the NYS Wine and Culinary Center. Awesome venue, and worth the price at \$16.
- **Dundee** – Meets Wednesday noon at the Youth Center on Main Street. Great Buffet and interesting programs – Dundee Rocks!
- **Geneva** – Meets Wednesday 12:05 at the Belhurst Castle, Route 14. A larger club and a tradition of robust fines/confessions.

## *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)

Did you wear your Rotary Lapel Pin today? Do you have a three minute “elevator” talk on what excites you about being a Rotarian?

## *A look into the future:*

“The development of full artificial intelligence could spell the end of the human race.” – Stephen Hawking. Eldon Musk fears that the development of artificial intelligence or AI may be the biggest existential threat humanity faces. Bill Gates urges people to be aware of it. (Economist: May 9, 2015, page 11). Where will Rotary stand on this apparent earth shattering issue? Will the 4-Way test prevail and make an impact on the development? Will we play a central role in the discussion, as we did with the formation of the United Nations? What role do we play when we buy computers and disperse them in Africa or Latin America for e-learning? Is this the same as letting semi-autonomous drones patrol the skies? Can we agree what is good for all concerned?

## *Penn Yan's Friends of Rotary - Our Auction Sponsors*

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Steve Owens and Classic Café  
<http://classiccafedundee.com/>

Rooster Hill Winery  
[www.roosterhill.com](http://www.roosterhill.com)

When you see them, let them know that you appreciate their support of our several charities and community service projects.

Also, we send a big Thank You to the **Dundee Observer** that hosted our list of items on their on-line website during the all-day on-air auction.

