

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

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



Report from the Board Meeting



Director Ef has returned from winter quarters in the Philly area. Doesn't he look fabulous!!! He made the Board meeting and quickly jumped back in the harness, picking up his ONSEYAWA duties from his "assistant" **Don Oakleaf**. **Ef** shared that the club he attends down south has about 150 members and is pretty active. What he notices the most is that our club is hands down much more friendly, welcoming, warm, and fun to be with. **"The warmth and fellowship here is to be cherished. Let us celebrate what we have here!"** While away, **Ef** kept up a steady correspondence with us.

Finances are getting a little more complicated as the Treasurer has opened two more checking accounts to manage the Auction and the Wine Classic. Treasurer **Diane** has sent the financial reports around to all the members, and the Board accepted her reports.

The Literacy project district simplified grant has been expended and the necessary reports prepared. Reimbursement from the District will be arriving soon. For years, the club has done grant supported projects and has been doing a great job of meeting filing dead-lines and record keeping requirements. This important accomplishment means that we are certified as eligible for more support. Thanks to **Don O**, **Jeff K** and **Ryan H** this year. Not to be slighted is **Leon F** who administered a huge Global Grant for the project in the Congo. Kudos go to **Leon** too. People around the district are commenting on the great work **Leon** has done and the tremendous impact it had on health, clean water and sanitation.

Leadership is changing on the ONSEYAWA board. It is important that the board develop a sustaining policy that raises about 1/3rd of the camp's annual expenses from fundraisers. The golf tournament has done this in the past, but might need to be replaced or reworked. Anyone with an interest in helping should contact **Ef A** or **Don O**

Stacy W, speaking of Youth Exchange, invited new members to shadow with him as he starts planning for your youth exchange student for next year.

Super Bob reported that Interact has reformed, and at the start up meeting last weekend, **Ashley Owens** was elected president and the members in attendance began to plan for recruiting new members to finish out the year. **Sue A**, **Stacy W**, **John S**, **Sandi P** and **Patrick T** were thanked for coming out and helping get the club re-energized.

(Continued)

(Board Reports continued)

The Board discussed and tabled for more information a request from Ashley Owens, representing the Honor Society, asking the club to provide food and servers for one of the afternoon meals in the Grandma's Kitchen project. Twice a week, volunteer groups provide a meal for 200+ students after school. For some it is the only meal that they will get before they arrive for a free breakfast the next morning. For others, it is just feeding the teenage beast between school and sports. Teachers and other afterschool participants may eat too. Several area churches have stepped up and served. An interest sign-up list was circulated at Assembly and will be reported back to the Board for decision. This is an unbudgeted request that requires Board decision.

Prez Bob reported that the "Rotary Meets Here" sign, which he erected at Top of the Lake and subsequently blew away, is being replaced by a metal one.

Club Foundation chair **Don O** is still looking to identify the project that we will submit for District Simplified Grant '16-'17. Tables or benches for the Outlet Trail look promising and he will take it up with John Kriese at the Academy and Dan Doyle at the village. The bigger project of interpretive signage is more long run. As for a scholarship, Don suggests that we consider one for vocational technology, perhaps CAD systems, med tech or surgical technician. He is exploring this with Work Force Development and local businesses that also might support a scholarship.

Arbor Day is in late April, and we will be picking up our trees for distribution to students in the elementary schools on Saturday, April 23rd. Ideally, the club will convene its April 26th meeting as a work session in a member's barn so that we can bag the trees for distribution to the students later that afternoon. **Tina** and **Steve Miller** agreed to lead the project this year.

Progress is being made on establishing rules and procedures for corporate membership.

The Board granted **Rob S** authority to start planning and organizing a project in Nepal. He cited Leon's success as the motivation to do something in Nepal. At this point, no funds are promised. For the next two months Rob will be working with students in the Cornell-Nepal Earthquake Recovery Partnership as they develop project plans. Rob's focus is on water and sanitation.

News and Notes of interest

Thanks to all that are getting Auction donations and ads in to **Tom H**. Anyone with keyboard skills and a little time is encouraged to contact **Carol W**. She needs nimble fingers for coding all the items into the computer so we can get the newspaper ads and the auction board postings ready. So far, about 75% of the donations and ads have been turned in. Keep up the good work...all must be in in the computer by the 17th.

Sandi P, speaking for the **Can Hunger** team, says the Buzz is on the street. Organizations are getting involved and she wants to post some inspirational photos on the club website. **Send Warren your pictures from Can Hunger '15**. Sandi's team has set a goal of 3,500 items...a small stretch from the 3,300 collected last year. **Leon F** will be leading our club team, Interact and Rotaract will be doing entries as well. Anyone interested can donate either cash, or cans, plastic bags or boxes of non-perishable food to the three teams.



Progress on Flights of Fancy Wine Classic is steady. 17 wineries are on board, and the talk around town is steadily growing. The idea that we are going to be helping the Outlet Trail has brought out a lot of support for the Wine Classic. Volunteers, from the Lions Club, the Academy teachers and Friends of the Outlet have been reaching out to Rotary. It might be a chance to name them "**Friends of Rotary.**" **Taryn W** has volunteered to manage the food vendors and demonstrations; and **Jodi at the Chamber** is going to work on scheduling musicians. **Jeff, the chef at the NYSWCC** (Culinary Center in Canandaigua), has asked to be included as a demonstration on wine / food pairing, and will be also doing more instruction inside Milly's.

Stu P pulled the 5 of clubs...pot is up to \$124 today



Rotarian Tina shows off a MAC computer bag that was made by a Woman's Cooperative in Rwanda and is now up for bids in the 50th Rotary Day Auction

If there is anyone who can clip Rotary articles about the Wine Classic or the Auction from the *Dundee Observer* and the *Finger Lakes Times*, **Carol W** would like their help.

Tom M urges us to “like” and “share” the PY Rotary Facebook page. Spread the word. Can-Hunger, the Auction, and the Wine Classic need to be put out there far and wide. Social Media messaging and advertising is the way that the new generations do it! **The 150th share will get two free passes to Flights of Fancy, the Wine Classic.**

Mov'n on up...**Patrick T** has started as a line chef trainee at Belhurst Castle. He is no longer at the Penn Yan Diner, and works a pretty arduous schedule now.

Super Bob is grateful for the enthusiasm of the Interact leadership. “We should be about helping our youth become leaders. Stimulating scholarship should be one of our most important missions.” **Prez Bob** is grateful that Rotarians have stepped up to make sure Interact is a success. “My worst thought was that Interact might not continue during my year as president. That is unthinkable.”

Leon F paid in advance for his trip south. Oh yeah, Florida this time. He also wants your ideas for a Can Hunger Construction. Should it look like a cistern or a hand wash station...he has drawings for those.

Several happy bucks hit the till asking for a Happy St. Valentine's Day. And many more celebrated the fact that there was still no snow. Beware – Snow is forecast for the end of the week, lots of wind and sub-zero temperatures on Saturday.

District Assembly – Nothing new – Chairs are working, teams have met, and tasks are being set. The content of the day is planned by the District Trainer, PDG John Hall.

During Assembly, discussion started on the topic of the Service Club Halloween Party. There was some concern that the party was being cancelled. The board will take up the issue with the purpose of keeping the program alive.

Super Bob and wife Sandy are leaving Seneca Lake for a week in Paris....not until the 21st...so you still have time to give them your shopping list.

Rob S paid in happy dollars with hopes that Carol's shoulder surgery comes soon and leaves her fully restored...he says he is getting tired of doing all the chores.

John S chipped in some happiness that **Ef A** was back safely, and had brought the coffee and donuts to the board meeting. He also reminded members that when they work the Auction, they get donuts in the AM, lunch wraps at noon, and wine at PM.

20 Days until the Auction goes live! Tell your friends!

- Tickets to Bristol Valley Playhouse, Shaw Festival and The Merry Go Round Theater in Auburn.
- Tickets to three days of racing IMSA at the Glen
- An awesome handmade wooden hors d'oeuvres lazy susan made by Stu P.
- Buffalo Bills #14 Watkins autographed jersey
- Car maintenance stuff! Lots of it!
- Cases and bottles of wine – Oh my, some really great wines
- Two of Leon F's pewter vases.
- A Sam Castner metal sculpture
- Bulk chicken and beef
- Grill gas refills and new cylinders
- Art Center gifts, photos, prints and paintings
- Discount certificates from many merchants

Events inviting your involvement

PEO, a women's philanthropic organization that is active in Penn Yan will be holding a breakfast, March 5th (Elks or Moose?) to raise money for scholarships for girls and women. Same day as our Radio Auction.

Late Breaking News – Four Rotary couples and two single Rotarians will be visiting the Finger Lakes on a **Group Exchange from New Zealand**. They are from the southern end of the Northern Island...dairy country. They will be here May 23rd – May 29th, more or less. The district Group Exchange Committee is looking for one more host family in the Penn Yan area. Carol and Rob have signed up for another couple. Do you want to host either a single or couple? You will have a chance to develop an in depth family relationship, do some events with your guests, and do one or more group events, such as attending the Corning Museum of Glass.

Fun and Fellowship this week

Light snow fell overnight, but was gone by noon. Temperatures climbed to high 30's. The buffet featured roast beef in mushroom gravy, mashed potatoes and a fabulous medley of sautéed winter vegetables. More elbow room this week...27 with no guests.

Thanks to our Club Service volunteers for the month of February.

Set-up/take-down:	Tina & Steve Miller
Attendance:	Taryn Windheim
Pledge/song:	Jeff Krans
Rotary Minute:	Leon Fontier
Prayer:	Mary Ellen Morgan
Sergeant:	Patrick Tolbert/Sandi Perl

What's Next:

Feb 16 th	Laurie Martin – Work Force
Feb 23 rd	Evelyn Watkins – Drug Court

Our Projects this Year

Can Hunger, Sandi Perl leader, starts February 26th.

Rotary Day's Radio Auction, Sat March 5th at the Living Well 8:30 to 5:00 on air. **Get those ads and donations in ASAP – See Tom H.** It benefits all our charities, especially Camp ONSEYAWA.

Sat. April 23rd – **District Training Assembly** Interact is picking up the job of selling Raffle Tickets, and we will support them with some income. We will need raffle items. Great food is planned for breakfast and lunch. There will be lots of time to make friends and help them find their way to the right parking spot or the right break out session.

Friday April 29th – Sunday May 1st - **District Conference in Hershey PA** Fun! Fun! Fun! Take a break from our busy project schedule to enjoy some CHOCOLATE! The RI President's Representative is usually one of the most entertaining and inspiring you will ever meet. One session will feature the **"Read to your baby"** initiative that Ryan put together and was awarded a District Simplified Grant.

Sat. May 14th- **Flights of Fancy, a Finger Lakes Wine Classic**. There is a BUZZ about this. Big talk around the community about Rotary's taking this step to extend the Tourist Season and to benefit the Outlet Trail. Wow!!!! Starting with this new event, we hope to help develop interpretive signs that show the history of the Outlet Trail. The Lions have offered their help too.

Birthdays coming up

Chris Bergman	2/16
Teresa Vivier	2/25

Reducing hunger in Yates -

"Food security, which the World Health Organization defines as "when all people at all times have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life," plays a critical role in poverty reduction. Feed the Future is a food security, poverty and nutrition initiative, incorporating *agricultural production and markets, rural economic growth, institutional capacity building, land tenure security, nutrition promotion, gender, value chain development, trade, employment and resilience programming*. Feed the Future is one of the U.S. Government's primary tools to reduce poverty through development assistance," according to USAID, a United States government foreign assistance program.

So, how does this mean something to Rotary in Yates County? The italicized portion of the quote speaks of a blueprint for achieving food security and reduced poverty. How then, would we, as a service club, begin to implement those plans?

Several years ago, Yorgen O. and a group of friends began the community garden project. It was a means for tenants without land rights to have inexpensive or free access to tillable land on which they could grow food. Step one.

Just a few years ago, we supported a young lady as she compiled an easy to follow cookbook that showed simple ways to use locally available fresh crops together with free food to make nutritional meals. Step two.

Parents of pre-school children meet as a group with educators to develop better family and child rearing skills. Nutrition is one topic. Step 3

Regrettably, the impact is not seen in the overall stats for Yates Co. What then do we do that will make an improvement in nutritional levels and reduce poverty?

What if we focused on one of the major at risk populations, the teens? Do they understand nutrition? Have they ever worked in a garden growing food? What do they know and think about poverty and food?

Food for the Future talks about exploiting agriculture as a means to eliminate poverty. Can these teens work in agriculture more than they do now? Can they take produce from the field and make it into a higher value product or sell it at a farmer's market?

In Dutchess County, Cooperative Extension and Youth Services combined staffing resources and with a community garden began a youth enterprise that grew and processed vegetables in to Salsa. It was then sold in farmer's markets and off the shelf in the local grocery. Instead of paying these "unemployables" in summer to hang out at a local park, they were paid to design bottle labels, concoct a slightly new salsa recipe, order bottles, keep records, hoe weeds in the tomatoes and so on. Eventually, they began growing herbs and a much broader range of vegetables, which they either sold at the market or gave to the Senior Center for noon day meals. Subtly the program was changing teen's views and habits! Not only were the teens more aware of food and nutrition, but they were empowered to be self-sufficient and not afraid of growing food or running a business based on local production from the fields.

Now, that seems like one way to refocus, educate and integrate agriculture, manufacturing and teens as a step toward reducing malnutrition and poverty. They did the same in the Massachusetts Ave project in Buffalo, NY.

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

Penn Yan's Friends of Rotary –

Friendly's Dodge Chrysler Jeep

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

Lyons National Bank

www.bankwithlnb.com

Roto Salt & Reme Casting

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

Eaves Family Dental

<http://www.eavesdental.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 Vineyards

www.roosterhill.com

Simmons – Rockwell

www.simmons-rockwell.com

