Can You Read This?

I'm sure most of you have seen a poster or bumper sticker that said, "If you can read this, thank a teacher." I think that falls short of the mark...how about thank a teacher or a literacy volunteer, a librarian...or a ROTARIAN! As the last months have passed (and passed rapidly I might add) I have read and heard about so many literacy programs in the clubs in this district it boggles the mind! From dictionaries to thesauri to books for the world...from donating books and magazines to schools and red and blue book shelves...from reading about small lending libraries in The Rotarian magazine and hearing a club member present the idea to a club because they could do that too...from listening to project ideas (too many too remember) at the literacy seminar (which has been and continues to be a gem that inspires us all to reach out and share our talents (you can read, right?)

Victor-Farmington, Rochester Rotary, Rochester Northwest (to name a few) all work with city schools. Perry sponsors Read Around Perry while Honeoye has the Rotary Reading Rally (451 books were read in January by the 129 students in 3rd, 4th & 5th grade), Belmont puts up yard type signs urging reading, Dundee builds bookshelves and Waterloo reads in the schools in cooperation with Cornell Cooperative Extension. Now I run a risk of stopping here as I have not mentioned you all...but there are so many literacy projects, if I keep going Howard Selleck (the bulletin editor) will despair at the space I am using. So...you get the idea. District 7120 Rotarians and Clubs too numerous to mention work on literacy.

Why?

Because as Rotarians we are aware of the importance of Basic Education and Literacy (one of the six Areas of Focus, by the way). We know that to end poverty we have to break the cycle and to do that we need to "immunize" our children and adults against that disease...illiteracy. I have travelled the district and taught in a school here and I know that if a person can read they can accomplish so much and do almost anything. I have been to a third world country and seen and experienced what I call bone breaking and heart wrenching poverty...some of you have done that too. After seeing all that, it seems there is no recourse but to cry. However, after we wipe our tears...we GET TO WORK. It is this important work of providing the ladder to climb to a better life that we do as Rotarians. And we know that aiding literacy is one important way to do that. Try making a list of things you could not do if you could not read...and you will soon see the importance of what many of us think of as a basic skill. You have heard me say that we can all contribute SOMETHING to the Rotary Foundation. Well, in regard to literacy, we can all do SOMETHING. Leave a book on a local red or blue bookshelf for someone else to take, buy a book or magazine to donate the next time you get one for yourself, offer a neighbor a ride to the library. Give of your time and start a reading program in your local schools. Look over the suggested list created by our District Literacy Committee (many thanks to Mary Ann, JoAnn, Shelly, Tracy, Pam, Bill, Jim, Mary) and help your club qualify for the literacy award. Read to a child...your own, your grandchild, a child at a school or day care center. And know that every effort, no matter what it is, is worthwhile and will help make the world a little better place to be.

Hope to see you in May at the District Conference. You "MOOSE" be there!

Yours in Rotary service,

Ellen
**Fifth Grade Students Receives “Apple Dumpling Adventure” Books**

Pictured above are some of the 5th graders at Freewill Elementary School where the Ontario-Walworth Rotary Club passed out “The Apple Dumpling Adventure” books on Tuesday, March 4, 2014. The story is based on the Rotary 4-Way Test and there is even a recipe for Apple Dumplings at the end of the story. Also pictured is Ontario-Walworth’s moose “Bullwinkle”. This is a project they do every year for all the 5th graders as well as Dictionaries to all the 3rd graders in the Wayne Central School District.

**Polar Plunge for Special Olympics**

By Emilie Uffman, VP for Publicity
Pittsford Mendon Interact Club

**Pictured above** - Student volunteers, plungers, and teachers from Pittsford Mendon and Sutherland High Schools pose before the plunge.

The Interact Club of Pittsford Mendon and Sutherland High Schools attended the Special Olympics Polar Plunge on Sunday February 9th, at Ontario Beach Park. The two clubs started their fundraisers in January by getting teachers to agree to participate in the plunge if the students raised a certain amount of money. The Mendon and Sutherland clubs combined raised over $3,500. This fundraiser was extremely successful for the benefit of the Special Olympics, who the Interact Club partners with for various activities throughout the year. It was a chilly day with water temperatures at thirty-two degrees. Pittsford Mendon Interact Club’s co-president Katie Gold reflected on the experience, “Special Olympics is a great cause and I’m so glad we were able to raise over $2,000! The actual plunge was an incredible experience. There were thousands of people there, all dressed up in costumes. The level of excitement was unbelievable. It was a 14-degree day, and I thought I was going to die when I went under the water, but it was so cold that I just went completely numb. It was an unforgettable experience and I can’t wait to do it again next year!” The fundraiser was a huge success for Special Olympics, bringing in $300,000. The Interact Club is looking forward to raising even more money for the Special Olympics in 2015!

**Literacy Committee**

Pictured above is the District’s Literacy Committee that are preparing for the District Training Assembly in Geneseo on April 5th and District Literacy Seminar on September 20, 2014. Mark your Calendars. Details to follow...

Pictured above, left to right: Mary Merritt, Mary Ann Mady (Chair), Pam Dean, Jim Infantino, Tracy Wooden, and DGE Scott MacDonell.
Rochester Rotary Hosts PHF Reception

Rochester Rotary Club hosted a Paul Harris Fellow reception prior to their Tuesday luncheon on Feb. 18th. They welcomed SIX new Paul Harris Fellows and FIVE new Paul Harris Plus. Congratulations to the new recipients and thanks to DG Ellen Hughes, Don Alhart and Hank Ralston for helping with the presentations!

Welcome New Rotarians

Perry Rotary

Bruce Billings (left) is welcomed into the Perry Rotary Club by Past President Jeff Fitch during their February 27th meeting.

Gates-Chili

Carrying on the family tradition, Shawn Collins was inducted as a member of the Gates-Chili Rotary Club. Left to right: President Ted Richmond, Shawn Collins, Kathy Collins and Terry Collins.

Newark Rotary

Newark Rotary Club inducted 2 new members recently. Pictured - back row - in the photo starting in the back row - left to right: Membership Chair & President-Elect Dr. David Hannan, President John Zornow, new member Kevin Mooney. Front Row, left to right: new member Sharon SanAngelo, Sharon's mentor Rotarian Michele McManus, PDG Norma Madayag-Reilly and Dr. Steven Mooney, Kevin Mooney's Mentor.

District 7120 Change-Over Dinner Celebration

will be held on Monday, June 30th, 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM at the Bristol Harbor Resort overlooking Canandaigua Lake. Registration information will be available in April.
Australian Award for Victor Farmington Rotarian

Two Australian Rotary officials made a unique statement of thanks when they combined to have a Paul Harris Fellow bestowed upon Victor-Farmington Rotary Club President Dave Luitweiler on February 19th.

District Governor Elect Barry Antees of District 9675, and District Governor Elect Phillip Charles of District 9630, were 2014 guests of the District 7120 Milt Matthews Governor Elect Hospitality Program (MMGEHP) and spent a week in the Finger Lakes area before going to San Diego, CA for their Governor Elect Training Conference. DGE Antees spent the week hosted by the Victor-Farmington Rotary Club and was the house guest of Dave & Judy Luitweiler. DGE Charles, and his wife Marlene, split time between the Waterloo Rotary Club and the Victor-Farmington Rotary Club with Rotarians Al and Bev Rosbrook serving as their hosts in Victor.

They had an active schedule that included trips to the Corning Museum of Glass, the George Eastman House in Rochester, Lake Ontario, New York State Police Troop E Headquarters, East View Mall, Finger Lakes wine country, etc., as well as visiting local businesses and getting to know local people. The MMGEHP has been hosting this annual event for four decades.

Australian Award (continued):

District 7120’s new District Governor Nominee Designate (DGND), Tom Rogers, of the Canandaigua Rotary Club, presented the award to Luitweiler. Club President Elect Brian Pancost and Club Secretary Karen Parkhurst read the testimonial communications received from DGE Antees and DGE Charles. The award was a surprise to Luitweiler since the 2 District Governors Elect worked through Club Secretary Karen Parkhurst to get the award and the award ceremony implemented.

DGE Charles was complimentary of Rotarian Luitweiler’s organizational efforts in many of the activities and programs involved with the program and expressed thanks to all who made his visit a success. DGE Antees made similar comments and praised the detail and structure of a program that provided such a meaningful Rotary experience to guests far from home.

This was the first time in the forty year history of the program that a PHF award has been made in appreciation for the international hospitality the program provides. In accepting the award, Rotarian Luitweiler expressed thanks for the recognition but noted that the MMGEHP program is the work of many Rotarians in the District and all are worthy of recognition for outstanding efforts to build friendships, goodwill and better understanding around the world.

The 2014 program involved hosting seventeen (17) incoming Rotary governors from Australia, Austria, Norway, Sweden, Turkey, India, South Africa and Argentina.

The 2015 MMGEHP will be held January 9th -17th with Malcolm Bugler of the Pittsford Rotary Club, and Dave Luitweiler of the Victor-Farmington Rotary Club, serving as Co-Chairs. Peter Schwarz will continue to provide assistance to the Co-Chairs and the Brighton Rotary Club will continue to co-sponsor hosting activities.
GLOBAL GRANT #1413367
Pediatric Clinic, Istanbul, Turkey

Penn Yan Rotary Club’s newest member, Freeman T. Freeman, traveled to Istanbul, Turkey and visited the site of a Global Grant providing Ultrasonography and Oxygen Therapy equipment to the neonatal intensive care unit to shorten diagnosis and treatment of newborns and children. The Yenikoy Turkey Rotary Club partnered with the Brighton Rotary Club to finance this grant along with the Penn Yan Rotary Club, Greece Rotary Club and Honeoye Falls-Mendon.

The fact that a member of the Penn Yan Club was able to visit the site personally cemented his commitment to Rotary International Service. He wrote:

“As you know, this was my first international event as chairperson of the committee. I cannot think of a more fulfilling, caring and exciting experience. It was greater than I had expected. I am very much aware that each of you took time from your busy life schedule to welcome and educate Steve and myself to your hospital, your pediatric department, the equipment our club helped fund, to the infants and children being served by the Sonography and the Blender machines.

At Left: Sema Ulke, member of Yenikoy Rotary Club, spouse of DGE Mufit Ulke, and Freeman with oxygen blender.

Global Grant - continued:

I will do my very best to describe the importance of this grant and the resultant saving of lives and enhancing the health and well being of Mothers and Children, to our club members.

The work all of you do is truly a gift of life and enrichment to all others. I am sure our club is and will be honored to be a part of that gift as well.”

Respectfully yours, Freeman T. Freeman

Clifton Springs Dedicates Bookcases

By Jeff Graff

Pictured at right, from left to right, is Clifton Springs Club President Jeff Graff, club member and DGE Scott MacDonell, club member Vivian Ryan and club member and Clifton Springs Library Director Melissa Correia.

This picture was taken at the February 25th dedication of our Club's first of two Blue Bookcases at a local laundromat owned by Vivian Ryan. This project was partially funded by a District Simplified Grant and will provide free books to the public.

Below is a picture taken at the March 11th dedication of Clifton Spring’s second Blue Bookcase at the Vienna Gardens Senior Living Center in the Village of Phelps.

Pictured, left to right: Clifton Springs Rotary President Jeff Graff, club member and Manager of the Phelps Community Public Library - Leah Hamilton, and club member Brenda Cordero.
Nicaragua School Building Project
By Kirk Vanderbilt

As many of you are probably aware, I’ve recently returned from a 12 day trip to Nicaragua. Along with my daughter Ella, fellow Avon Rotarians Jim Tompsett and Rob Lupisella, Ella’s best friend Olivia Montesano, and 15 others, we travelled to a developing area in Nicaragua called El Sauce to carry-out a school building project. The project was planned and partially funded by a group of Avon Central Seniors called Avon for Nicaragua. Avon Rotary, HF-L Rotary, and several others helped as well.

For the purposes of this article, I decided to streamline my account of the trip with 3 words: Hard, Beauty, and Inspired.

It was hard to leave our family and loved ones for 2 weeks. It was hard to get Ella through the motion sickness of her very first airplane ride. It was hard to find ourselves in a foreign country where we couldn’t speak the language. It was hard to see the abject poverty which quickly became apparent. It was hard to adjust to accommodations that were far from that to which we are accustomed. It was hard to communicate with our hosts sometimes. It was hard to adjust to the food. It was hard to deal with the 90 degree heat while working. It was hard to hand dig the footers for the new school in rock-hard earth. It was hard to mix by hand the several yards of concrete and mortar needed for the construction. It was hard to carry the thousands of bricks to the construction site from the site where they were made. It was hard to sleep at night due to round-the-clock roosters and dogs. It was hard to know that we couldn’t provide everything these people needed. And most of all, it was hard to say good-bye to all our new friends we had made along the way.

There was beauty in the banana, palm, and mango trees. There was beauty in the centuries-old architecture. There was beauty in the undeveloped countryside. There was beauty in the seemingly countless number of volcanoes that lined the landscape. There was beauty in seeing children play soccer (futbol) in the street without fear. There was beauty in the terraced mountainside planted with corn, wheat, sugarcane, and coffee. There was beauty in the nearly impassible mountain road. There was beauty in a community gathering to eat, play games, sing and dance around a bonfire. There was beauty in the mountain-top sunset we saw 2 nights in a row. There was beauty in the young parents and small children sitting in their new school at La Flor. There was beauty in a young blind boy receiving the gift of a new guitar. And most of all there was beauty in the smiles and fist-bumps that replaced the need for words.

I was inspired by Ella’s adaptability. I was inspired by the pride in a country with so few resources. I was inspired by young men driving oxen down the roadside with homemade carts. I was inspired by resourcefulness of the farmers. I was inspired by simplicity of their lifestyle. I was inspired by subsistence farming and providing for one’s self. I was inspired by the high school student who walks 4 hours each way to school once a week. Similarly, I was inspired by the young English teacher who walked four hours up the mountain to teach an English class to anyone in the community who chose to attend. I was inspired by cooperation with which they are trying to improve the lives of their children. And most of all I was inspired by the girls of Avon for Nicaragua, the Lupisellas, the Enlace Project, and everyone else who chose to help make a difference for these beautiful people.

Above - volunteers at the Nicaragua school building project

Exchange Student & Sister visits Niagara Falls

Victor-Farmington Rotary Club’s Exchange Student, Constance Bostoen (France) with her sister, Mathilde, age 15, who is visiting her. Picture was taken at Niagara Falls where they were taken for a day trip. The viewfinders for the Falls were frozen and looked like cartoon characters.
Days for Girls
By Diane Krans

In the January 2014 issue of the Rotarian there was an article about menstruation and the taboos that exist today in many places around the globe. There are many opportunities today to help young girls and women and listed below is one group of women that are taking action.

I first read about Days for Girls (DFG) in a knitting magazine. The article spoke of the actions of this organization and how one could get the word out that menstruation is normal and does not cause shame.

“Dignity can’t wait...What if not having sanitary supplies kept you isolated during menstruation? DAYS without school. DAYS without income. No leaving your room... for DAYS.

It happens worldwide to women in struggling communities. Girls miss up to 3 months of school in just one year. Girls use leaves, mattress stuffing, corn husks, and newspaper, anything they can find...all to try to stay in school...”

I recently spoke to Celeste Mergens (a new Rotarian) who, while stationed in Kenya, learned of the plight of these women and girls. After much thought to the problems girls and women faced she came up with an idea that would benefit them by providing them with clean sanitary products that could be washed and reused for at least three (3) years.

After much trial and error a kit was developed that could be given to each girl/woman. Rotary Clubs in different parts of the world learned of this and began to make kits or send donations to Days for Girls.

“DFG was born in 2008, in an orphanage in Dagoretti, Kenya. What made me interested in learning more about DFG was the fact that today most of us living in the US, Canada or Europe can purchase sanitary products at our neighborhood store. We do not find it shameful, miss days at work or school, and know it is a natural part of growing up.

I would like to encourage you to visit their website: www.daysforgirls.org and learn what you and your club, book group, or social group can do to spread the word: “Every Girl. Everywhere. Period.”

You can contact Celeste at: celeste@daysforgirls.org and obtain a kit to get you started.

Polar Plunge 2014 anyone?
By Pam Hayes

On Sunday, February 9th one Avon Rotarian, Doug Hayes, and two Avon Interact Club members, Charlie Lemen and Jimmy Jadlos, braved the icy cold waters of Lake Ontario for the 2014 Polar Plunge to benefit the Special Olympics. Between the 3 they raised $350 to support this very worthy cause.

To give a grand show of support were Avon Rotarians Pam Hayes and Terry Lemen and Interact Club member Emily Hayes. There were over 2,000 participants and a total of $250,000 was raised for our Special Olympics athletes in NY State. New York State supports 62,000 Special Olympics athletes. The Avon Rotarian Club is proud to show their support of this very worthy cause. This is the second event Pam Hayes has coordinated this 2013/2014 year. The first was the Run Dead event in the Fall of 2013 at Darien Lake where 12 Interact Club members raised $700.

Pam states she only hopes to continue to support and grow involvement with the Avon Rotarian and Interact Clubs in future years with Special Olympics. The Special Olympics fundraisers are very well organized events that are fun, create great bonding times for our club members and fit the Rotarian club goals to benefit others in greater need.
Penn Yan Rotary Club Enters the Internet Age

The Rotary Club of Penn Yan is holding their 48th Annual Rotary Radio Day Auction on May 10, 2014 with a live WFLR Radio broadcast at Milly’s Pantry at 19 Main St., Penn Yan, NY. All proceeds from this auction go towards helping fund Camp Onseyawa, and other community service programs. Rotary also decided to offer auction items online beginning May 1st at www.BiddingForGood.com/PennYanRotaryAuction.

The Auction has moved from its traditional February date to Saturday, May 10th – same time (8:30 AM-5:00 PM). Rotarians want to include returning snowbirds and capture some Summer listeners and bidders. There will be the usual and much appreciated favorites donated by local business owners, but this year’s listeners can also bid for trips to Cancun, arts festivals, wine tours, overnight accommodations during the summer wine tour season, and specialty items. There is already a donated handcrafted cedar blanket chest. Rotary would like to thank its many donors and auction participants without whom the auction would not be possible. Remember to listen to WFLR radio, bid online and/or watch in Milly’s Pantry window, on May 10, 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM and call in your bids.

Rotary Youth Leadership Award Program - (RYLA) Alive and Well!

Applications are now being accepted for the 2014 RYLA experience to be held on the R.I.T. campus June 29th – July 3rd. Program space is limited to the first 25 completed applications. The cost for this extraordinary leadership program is $490 and every club in District 7120 is able to recommend one student for each high school in its territory.

Please go to Rotary7120.org and find the application with directions under “Youth Services” – and then under the pull down menu, “RYLA”. The student will be able to type right on the application and then print it out (two copies). All completed applications must be typed – no exceptions. The application must then be turned over to the sponsoring Rotary Club, who will forward it along with a check to:

Roger Ressman, PDG – Chairperson
62 Glenn Haven
Spencerport, NY 14559

NOTE: There will be a breakout session at the District Training Assembly on April 5th for those who would like additional information. The deadline for applications is May 15th.

If you have any questions, please contact Roger Ressman, PDG at either: artfuld@frontiernet.net or 585-352-4108

Brockport Rotary Contributes $5K to the James P. Wilmot Cancer Center

Pictured above, left to right: Brockport Rotary Vice President Brad Mitchell, Wilmot Center Administrative Assistant for Advancement Laurie Christensen and President John Egan pose with a large replica of the 2013-14 donation check. For the past four years the proceeds of the annual BBQ and Music Festivals have gone primarily to the Wilmot Center. The total amount given is about $25,000. Since the support of the community has allowed these donations, the Brockport Rotary thanks the citizens of the Brockport area and beyond who supported the fundraisers by their attendance and/or sponsorships.

Mynderse Interact Students

Mynderse Interact students, Emily Sullivan (left) and Lexi Thompson (right), present Seneca Falls Rotarian Dave Markel with a check for Bolera Palms Elementary School in Malawi. The Interact students raised money by selling popcorn after school.
**Sunshine Kids Gala**

Rochester Rotary, in partnership with the Rochester Automobile Dealers Association held its 5th Sunshine Kids Gala on February 22nd at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center. The Gala is an event to raise money for the Sunshine Campus - a camp for children and adults with disabilities.

Each year three awards are presented at the Gala - Sunshine Award, Building Bridges Award, and the Dealer Employee of the Year Award. This year each award recipient was a Rotarian.

_Above-left_: Ruth Perrin (Honeoye Falls-Mendon) with Brad McAreavy who is presenting her with the Dealer Employee of the Year Award.

_Above-right_: BJ Cunningham (Irondequoit) receiving the Building Bridges Award from Robert Attardo, President of Rochester Rotary.

Pictured above is Rochester Rotary President Robert Attardo (right) presenting the Sunshine Award to Paul DeCarolis, member of Rochester Rotary.

Congratulations to the award recipients!

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**Local Student Places in Oratorical Contest**

Canandaigua Rotary Club sponsored two contestants in the District 7120 Oratorical Contest. The two contestants are Benjamin Grimm and Anders Namesnik from the Canandaigua Academy. Anders Namesnik placed second in the contest in January.

_Pictured above is Anders Namesnik on the left and Benjamin Grimm on the right._

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**Rotary Donates Seed Money to Canandaigua’s Endowment Fund**

At a recent Canandaigua Rotary board meeting it was decided to make a seed money donation to the Canandaigua Centennial Endowment. According to the rules of the Endowment, its funds can only be used for projects outside of the municipal budget expenses. Recent projects that had some, or all, private funding included the attractive Commons Park in the center of downtown, Pioneer Cemetery on West Ave, elements of Kershaw Park, Clock Restoration and update atop the City Hall, and the Pioneer monument at the corner of South Main and Rts 5 & 20. The Endowment Fund will be overseen by an advisory committee and administered by the Finger Lakes Area Community Endowment (FLACE) as a non-profit. Additional information can be obtained from Byron Delavan, Bruce Kennedy, or Dick McGavern.

_Pictured, left to right: Byron Delavan, Club President RJ Pietropaolo, Club members Bruce Kennedy and Dick McGavern._
Seven Area High School Students Compete in Rotary District 7120’s Semi Final Contest

On Wednesday, February 26, 2014 a semi final oratorical contest was held at Brighton High School. Seven contestants from five area high schools participated. The first place winner was Aidan Culvelli from Brighton High School. Second place winner was Felix Weilacher from Penfield High School. There was a tie for third place: Megan Betancourt from Our Lady of Mercy and Caroline Rutan from Penfield. These top four winners will compete in the finals to be held at St John Fishers College on Saturday March 29, 2014.

Pictured above are the 7 contestants, left to right: Michael Howlet & Christopher Carlson (Brockport), Felix Weilacher - 2nd - (Penfield), Mathew Cotton (Naples), Caroline Rutan - 3rd - (Penfield), Megan Betancourt - 3rd - (Rochester Latino), Aidan Cuvelli - 1st - (Brighton).

The final winners will be entitled to select a scholarship from one of the following area colleges: Alfred University, Finger Lakes CC, Monroe CC, Elmira College, Nazareth College, Roberts Wesleyan College, St John Fisher College and the University of Rochester. The public is invited to attend the finals which will be held at noon.

In Remembrance

Edward R. Dundas

Edward R. Dundas, passed away unexpectedly on March 12, 2014.

Ed is survived by his loving wife, Mary; children - Mike Dundas and Lisa (Peter) Caffrey; parents, Ed and Gerda Dundas; brothers, Ron and Tom (Shirl) Dundas; sister, Cyndie (Chris) Shevlin; several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews. Ed was a member of the Fairport Rotary Club, an active member of Church of the Assumption and CEO of C&D Remodeling L.L.C.

Friends may call Sunday 1:00 PM-4:00 PM at the Farrell-Ryan Funeral Home, 777 Long Pond Road (between English & Latta). Funeral Mass, 11:15 AM Monday at Church of the Assumption, 20 East Ave., Fairport. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to McQuaid Jesuit High School, School of the Holy Childhood, Rotary International or Church of the Assumption Youth Ministry.

Prattsburgh Rotary - Student of the Month February - 2014

Prattsburgh Rotary Club announced the February “Student of the Month” at Prattsburgh Central School. The student is Jared McAllister, the son of Fred and Diane McAllister of Prattsburgh. Jared, a senior, is a member of the National Honor Society and the Prattsburgh Student Council. He is involved in many activities, including Ski Club, soccer, basketball, baseball, and golf. Jared has participated in the “Adopt-A-Senior-Citizen” program and been a blood drive volunteer. He is also a member of the National Wildlife Turkey Federation. He also has part-time jobs that keep him very busy.

At left - David Luitweiler donated Happy Dollars at a Rotary meeting for having been lucky enough to have his camera nearby and grabbing some pictures of “Tripod” - a three legged deer.

What’s Missing in this photo?

Prattsburgh Rotary Club
Belmont Rotarian of the Month
March 2014 - Robert (Bob) Drosendahl

Born in Farmersville, New York, Bob Drosendahl grew up in Delevan, where he worked on the family farm. He graduated from Delevan-Machias Central School in 1967. During his high school years Bob played basketball and baseball. From 1969-1971 Rotarian Drosendahl proudly served in the United States Marine Corps and served in Vietnam. In 1972, Bob married his wife, Terry, and they have three daughters, four grandsons and two granddaughters. Terry is a very active volunteer for the Belmont Rotary Club and is on the scene for our various fund raisers.

Following his military service, Bob worked as a mason and in the cow breeding industry. Then in 1977, he became a partner in Francisco Farms Incorporated in Belmont, New York, where he remained until his retirement in 2009. This time off did not last long, however, and soon Bob found himself on a three year stint driving school bus for the Head Start Program at Genesee Valley School. The children loved him, and the feeling was mutual.

Bob served in his community long before joining the Belmont Rotary Club. He is a Past Commander of the Belmont American Legion, member of the Olean Bowling Association, former member of the Belmont Fire company and a Board of Director for Select Sire Power Inc. After his retirement in 2009, he felt the need to give something back to his community of Belmont. Rotarian Mike Healy invited Bob to a meeting and later asked him to join the club. Bob joined the club in 2009, and since that time he has proven to be a very productive and dependable member of the group. He has enjoyed the various Rotary training sessions and conferences he has attended during his few years as a member to better educate himself as a member of Rotary International.

Now, Bob Drosendahl spends his days, fishing, golfing, bowling, golfing, and gardening…when he is not golfing. He is happy to be a Belmont Rotarian and currently serves as its President-elect. When asked why Rotary is important, he replies, “Rotary is an organization that has representation throughout the world that can accomplish great things by utilizing the knowledge and resources of each individual. As a Rotarian, I not only have the opportunity to do something for local people, but to assist people throughout the world.”

Watkins-Montour Rotary Names February Students-of-the-Month

Watkins Glen High School senior Caitlin Connelly was honored February 13, 2014, by the Watkins-Montour Rotary Club as its Watkins Glen High School Student of the Month for February. Connelly was introduced to Rotarians at their weekly luncheon by teacher Eileen Malaney, who described the honoree as "smart, fun, well-rounded, and very deserving of this honor." Connelly, a member of her school's Interact service club, is Class Treasurer, a Student Council officer, and Editor in Chief of the School Yearbook. She is also an artist, a member of the school play, "No, No, Nanette" -- for which she designed t-shirts and writes press releases -- and helps run a seasonal Connelly-family antique business. She plans to attend college and pursue a career in marketing or business management. "She's a leader," Malaney concluded.

Odessa-Montour High School senior Leeah Fazzary was honored February 27, 2014, by the Watkins-Montour Rotary Club as its Odessa-Montour High School Student of the Month for February. Fazzary was introduced to Rotarians at their weekly luncheon by Odessa-Montour High School principal Chris Wood, who described the honoree as "an energetic, intelligent and outgoing young lady" who has been a member of the school's volleyball team for four years and is a peer tutor and a member of the Interact service club. She is also a babysitter and a Colonial Inn employee, and "has become very active in her church," including among her activities an upcoming mission trip to Guatemala during Spring Break. She plans to attend Kingswood University in New Brunswick, Canada, to study Ministry. Fazzary told Rotarians that while she values academic achievement, "what's more important to me is character ... I'm grateful to be in a community of people in my school, my church and my family who encourage me as I live my life for God."

Photos courtesy of Charlie Haeffner
Bath Rotary Club Participates in Red Door Community Kitchen
By Elaine Tears

On the second Wednesday of February, May, August, and November the Bath Rotary Club will host the Red Door Community Kitchen, held in the Great Hall of St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Bath. The program provides a healthy meal every Wednesday to anyone who walks into the Great Hall between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. During the Winter season a healthy soup, bread and butter/sandwich, dessert item, and a choice of hot and cold beverages are offered.

Helen Monroy, a St. Thomas parishioner, stated that in 2013 the idea of the Red Door Community Kitchen evolved out of many group meetings held at the church’s annual meeting. Programs and services currently offered in Bath were assessed by Monroy and a group of other parishioners, and they recognized the need to create a soup kitchen. Other churches and agencies in the community made financial contributions to the base funding. Presently, St. Thomas parishioners, Bath Rotarians, and Hammondsport Rotarians sponsor teams to provide and serve the meals. The program also provides a warm and comfortable atmosphere for the people to socialize with each other and the servers.

Past President Becky Stranges, coordinator of the program for the Bath Rotary Club said, “We are fortunate to live in one of the richest agricultural countries in the world; no one in America should ever go hungry. I am pleased to say that the Bath Rotary Club supports the Red Door Community Kitchen and the Community Garden, both of which are located at St. Thomas Episcopal Church and provide food for the less fortunate. The Rotarians are proud to provide and serve a healthy and sustaining meal four times a year to those in need.” The local club also continues to maintain the Community Garden, serving the Spring Meadow Senior Housing Complex which was begun in 2011 under the supervision of Don Snyder, Bath Rotarian.

Dessert Night at Pal-Mac

Palmyra Macedon Rotary Club held their annual dessert night on February 12th. Everyone brings two desserts, one for everyone to sample and the other to be auctioned off. The club raised over $400 for the Rotary Foundation.

Geneseo Rotarians Helping the Cub Scouts

The Geneseo Rotary Club helped the Cub Scouts at their spaghetti dinner on February 23rd. Pictured above in the kitchen were, left to right: Past President Kurt Fletcher, Bruce Godsave, and Past President John Lanpher.

Meanwhile the Cub Scouts are giving The Cub Scout Promise:

*I promise to do my best
To do my duty to God and my country,
To help other people, and To obey the Law of the Pack.*
Rotary Fellowships

Rotary Fellowships are groups of Rotarians, Rotarian spouses, and Rotaractors who join together to:

- Share a common interest in worthwhile recreational activities (sports, hobbies, etc.)
- Further their vocational development through acquaintance with others of the same profession
- Make new friends around the world
- Explore new opportunities for service
- Have fun and enhance their experience in Rotary

Examples of Rotary Fellowships

- Tennis
- Scuba Diving
- Flying
- Canoeing

How Rotary Fellowships Operate

- Each fellowship is operated independently of Rotary International, with its own rules, dues requirements, and administrative structure.
- Membership in fellowships is open to Rotarians, spouses of Rotarians, and Rotaractors.
- Fellowships must be international in nature with active members in at least three countries.
- Each fellowship elects at least three officers to oversee the group’s administration.
- Fellowships are expected to facilitate communication among their members and maintain regular communication with RI.

Some Benefits of Rotary Fellowships

- Fellowships provide opportunities for Rotarians to make lasting friendships outside of their own club, district, or country.
- Fellowships contribute to the advancement of world understanding and peace.
- Fellowships serve as an incentive for attracting new members to Rotary and retaining existing ones.
Join a Fellowship

Interested in a particular Rotary Fellowship? Click on the topic to visit the group’s website, or use the e-mail address provided to contact the group’s designated contact officer.

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Start a New Fellowship
If your recreational or vocational interest isn’t represented by an existing fellowship, contact RI staff to learn how you can start a prospective Rotary Fellowship.

Related RI publications
- Rotary Fellowships Directory
- Rotary Fellowships Handbook (729)
- Rotary Fellowships Annual Report

Contact RI staff:
Rotary Service (PD210)
Fax: 1-847-556-2182
E-mail: rotaryfellowships@rotary.org

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Magicians
www.rotarianmagician.org

Magna Graecia
www.fellowshipsmagnagraecia.org

Marathon Running
www.rotarianrun.org

Motorcycling
www.ifmr.org

Music
www.ifrm.org

Old and Rare Books
www.rotaryoidbooks.org

Past District Governors
www.pdgsfellowship.org/

Photographers
www.ifpr.info/

Police and Law Enforcement
www.polepfr.org

Pre-Columbian Civilizations
jaime.jimenez.castro@gmail.com

Quilters and Fiber Artists
www.rotariansquilt.org

Railroads
www.ifrr.info

Recreational Vehicles
www.rvweb.org

Rotary Global History
www.rotaryhistoryfellowship.org

Rotary Heritage and History
www.rhhif.org/

Rotary on Stamps
www.rotaryonstamps.org

Scouting
www.ifrs-net.org

Scuba Diving
www.ifrsd.org

Shooting Sports
www.rotaryclayshoot.com

Singles
www.rsinternational.net

Skiing
www.ifrsk.org

Social Networks
www.rotarysocialnetwork.org

Tennis
www.iftr.org

Total Quality Management
www.rotarytqm.it

Travel Agents
www.rotarytravelfellowship.org

Travel and Hosting
www.ithf.org

Wellness and Fitness
kappenberger@gmail.com

Wine
www.rotarywine.net

Yachting
www.lyfr.net

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Note: Diane Krans of the Penn Yan Rotary Club is District Fellowship Chair and would be willing to assist any individual or club in promoting fellowships.

Email: dgkrans@yahoo.com

This year Fellowships are one check off to receive the Presidential Citation.
April 2014

SAVE THE DATE for the DISTRICT TRAINING ASSEMBLY

Date - April 5, 2014. Registration and breakfast at 7:45 AM. The programs begins at 8:30 AM and concludes with lunch at 12:30 PM.
Location - Geneseo High School, 4050 Avon Rd. (Rte. 39) in Geneseo, NY

Hosted by the Geneseo Rotary Club

This will be a great opportunity for all Rotarians to learn about a variety of club and district level programs and initiatives. The morning promises to be informative and relevant for new as well as experienced Rotarians. For further information visit the District 7120 website and click on District Assembly or contact DGE Scott MacDonell at

April 5th - Grant Management Seminar - RENEWAL ONLY - Geneseo High School, 4050 Avon Road, Geneseo, NY - 9:30 AM registration; 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

May 2014

May 2nd - May 4th - District Conference at the Sheraton Hotel in Burlington, VT Check in starts @ 3 PM on the 2nd.
May 10th - Advisory Council meeting - at Peppermint's in Avon - 8:30 AM start.

June 2014

June 1st - June 4th - International Convention In Sydney, Australia.
June 30th - District Change Over Dinner - 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM at the Bristol Harbor Resort overlooking Canandaigua Lake. Registration information will be available in April.

May 31st - Camp Haccamo's 2nd Annual Auto/Truck Meet


March 20th - Charter Dinner for Monroe South
March 23rd - Sunday, March 23rd at 2:00 pm in Kodak Hall at the Eastman Theater - the Eastman School of Music will be hosting The United States Army Field Band and Soldiers’ Chorus. The concert is free but tickets are required and are available from the Eastman Theater Box Office starting February 24th. Tel: 585-454-2100. continued on next column - - >
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