District 7120 Conference
Burlington, Vermont
Service Above Selfie

* Steve Synesael - of Rush-Henrietta Rotary distributing dictionaries at Holy Childhood School. Rush Henrietta works there during the year for special events.

Club Builder - Candidates must have done the following:

- Recruited at least five members who are active Rotarians at the time of nomination
- Participated in Rotary training in their club
- Participated in at least one meaningful club-level vocational service project
- Attended at least two district meetings in the three years immediately preceding nomination

* Winners: Mark Wyse - Ontario-Walworth; Jessica Nichols - Ganada - Accepting for Jessica is Kevin Rooney

District Vocational Awards - developed by Melissa Jordan, had to do 4 Vocational projects.

* Winners: Greece (Larry Evarts), Ontario-Walworth (Robin Mark), Penn Yan (Diane Krans), Hornell (Lindsie Meese), Waterloo (Bill Sigrist).

District Service Awards - serving the District through their clubs, especially by participation in Foundation programs. Nominated by the District Governor with help from the AGs. In alphabetical order:

Dan Barletta - Greece
June Bates - Bath
Matthew Bugler - Pittsford
Mark Davidson - Hornell
Jeff Fitch - Perry
Mike Gralock - Sodus
John Haynes - Rochester Deaf
Mary Ann Mady - Penfield
Karen Parkhurst - Victor-Farmington
Bill Redden - Lima
Eric Schmidt - Rush-Henrietta
Howard Selleck - Prattsburgh
Mahendra Shah - Elmira Heights
Walt Springer - Rush Henrietta
Ken Steadman - Geneva
Chuck Turner - Brighton
Sara Visingard - Fairport
Peter Wallin - Chemung Sunrise
Linda Werts - Newark
Fran Willis - Dundee

Pictured above, left to right: Karen Parkhurst, Howard Selleck, Larry Evarts, June Bates, Mary Ann Mady, Chuck Turner and Ken Steadman.

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Friday Special Awards

District Service Awards (continued):

Pictured above, left to right: Fran Willis, Linda Werts, Mahendra Shah, Mike Garlock, Sara Visingard, Eric Schmidt, Bill Redden, Lindsie Meese (accepting for Mark Davidson).

Saturday Morning Awards

International Service Awards

First Place - Avon
- Nicaragua School Construction
Second Place - Honeoye Lake
- Physical Therapy Equipment for Hemophilia Treatment in Kyrgyzstan
Third Place - Penn Yan
- Dime-olish Polio

Youth Service Awards

First Place - Victor-Farmington
- School 16 Project
Second Place - Hammondsport
- Per-school Reading project
Third Place - Greece
- BOCES #2 Christmas Party

Bulletin Contest Awards

Division 1
First Place - Geneseo
Second Place - Avon
Third Place - Fairport

Division 2
First Place - Spencerport
Second Place - Rochester Latino
Third Place - Bloomfield

Division 3
First Place - Lima
Second Place - Gorham

Club Website Contest Awards

Division 1
First Place - Canandaigua
Second Place - Corning
Third Place - Elmira

Division 2
First Place - Palmyra-Macedon
Second Place - Fairport
Third Place - Pittsford

Club Service Awards

First Place - Wellsville
- Membership Drive
- Rotary Club Social
Second Place - Belmont
- Summer Fellowship
Third Place - Penn Yan
- Fall State Park Picnic

Community Service Awards

First Place - Wayland
- Christmas in Wayland
Second Place - Waterloo
- CAP Battered Women
Third Place - Gorham
- Friendship House Support

Vocational Service Awards

First Place - Victor Farmington
- Jordan Pappas “Service Above Self” Award
Second Place - Hammondsport
- Vocation Night
Third Place - Belmont
- Surround Yourself with Books
Saturday Morning Awards

Club Website Contest Awards

Division 3

First Place - Lima
Second Place - Belmont
Third Place - Hilton
Third Place - Waterloo

Literacy Awards

Avon
Bath
Belmont
Bloomfield
Corning
East Rochester
Elmira
Elmira Heights
Fairport
Gananda
Gates-Chili
Gorham
Greece
Hammondsport
Honeoye Falls-Mendon
Honeoye Lake
Hornell

Naples
Newark
Nunda
Ontario-Walworth
Palmyra-Macedon
Penfield
Penn Yan
Perry
Prattsburgh
Red Jacket
Rochester Latino
Rochester NW
Rush-Henrietta
Seneca Falls
Sodua
Waterloo

Saturday Evening Awards

Jack King Award

The Jack King Award is given to the club with the highest percentage increase in membership growth from May 1, 2013 to February 28, 2014.

The winner of the Jack King Awards is:
Sodus Rotary Club - 22.22%

F. Howard & Mary Fischer Award

The F. Howard & Mary Fischer Award is given to the club with the highest percentage attendance from May 1, 2013 to February 28, 2014.

The winners of the F. Howard & Mary Fischer Award are:
Belmont Rotary - 100% - Perry Rotary - 100%

Annual Attendance Awards

The Top Three highest percent attendance from July 1, 2013 to last day of February, 2014 (this year the last day in January 2014 due to the earlier awards date).

Awarded by Division:

Division A (over 400 members) - No Club
Division B (300 to 399 members):

1st - Rochester Rotary - 50%
Division C (200 to 299 members) - No Club
Division D (100 to 199 members):

1st - Newark Rotary - 71%
2nd - Canandaigua Rotary - 56%
Division E (50 to 99 members):

1st - Perry Rotary - 100%
2nd - Geneva Rotary - 84%
3rd - Watkins-Montour - 79%
Division F (25 to 49 members):

1st - Spencerport Rotary - 98%
2nd - Bath Rotary - 90%
3rd - Honeoye Falls-Mendon Rotary - 88%
Division G (under 25 members):

1st - Belmot Rotary - 100%
2nd - Gananda Rotary - 98%
3rd - Red Jacket Rotary - 95%
3rd - Gates-Chili Rotary - 95%
**President Citations**

**Brighton Rotary**
(three activities besides mandatory one)

**President Citations with distinction**

Avon, Ontario-Walworth, Penn Yan, Waterloo
(4 activities besides mandatory one)

**Rotary Club Central Award**

Bath
Belmont
Bloomfield
Brighton
Brockport
Clifton Springs
Dundee
Elmira
Fairport
Friendship
Gates-Chili
Honeoye
Honeoye Falls-Mendon
Hornell
Irondequoit
Lima
Naples
Newark
Nunda
Ontario-Walworth
Palmyra-Macedon
Penfield-Webster
Penn Yan
Perry
Pittsford
Prattsburgh
Red Jacket
Rush-Henrietta
Scottsville
Seneca Falls
Waterloo
Wayland

**Sunday Special Awards**

Erin Sigrist, left, was presented a Paul Harris Fellow by her parents Bill & Kathy Sigrist. Pictured above at right is RI President’s Representative Rebecca MacPherson.

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**Paul Harris Fellow +6**

Peter Schwarz was presented a Paul Harris Fellow +6. Accepting the Paul Harris for Peter was his wife Elaine. Pictured above, left to right: RI President’s Representative Rebecca MacPherson. Mike McGovern, RI Foundation Vice Chair and Elaine Schwarz.

**Conference Committee Receives PHFs**

District Governor Ellen Hughes presented Paul Harris Recognitions to the Conference Committee members.

Pictured above, left to right are: Anna Bridger, Tim Lincoln, Mike Davis, Dave Odell, Barb Harper, Chris Shaffer, Bill Sigrist, Kathy Sigrist, Lynne Tyler, Liz Becht, DG Ellen, RI President’s Representative Rebecca MacPherson and RI Foundation Vice Chair Mike McGovern. Missing in the photo is Jane Shaffer.

(continued on next page)
Sunday Special Awards

Major Donor Recognition

Chris and Jane Shaffer were recognized for being Major Donors to The Rotary Foundation. Pictured above, left to right: DG Ellen Hughes, Jane Shaffer, Chris Shaffer, RI Representative Rebecca MacPherson and Mike McGovern, RI Foundation Vice Chair.

Citation for Meritorious Service

Jeff Krans was presented a Citation for Meritorious Service. Pictured above, left to right: DG Ellen Hughes, Mike McGovern, RI Foundation Vice Chair, Jeff Krans and RI President’s Representative Rebecca MacPherson.

Distinguished Service Award

Don Alhart - pictured above, was presented the Distinguished Service Award via FaceTime.

Thanks “Bippy”!

Pictured above is Dave “Bippy” Boyer and Cindy Boyer. All of the pictures in this newsletter, with the exception of those indicated otherwise, were taken by “Bippy” Boyer. He was busy with camera in hand throughout the Conference. Many thanks for his photographic efforts at this and other District events.

If he took your picture and you would like a copy contact Bippy directly - daveboyer55@gmail.com.

Great job - well done Bippy!
Activities of the Youth Exchange and Interact Students
By Julie Carney
Avon Rotary Club

District Governor, Ellen Hughes, said it best. You “moose” come to Burlington to have a great time. The 48 students, from here and abroad, joined in fellowship with Rotarians from across District 7120 at the 2014 District Conference in Burlington Vermont, held May 2nd to May 5th. The student’s group comprised of our District’s 22 current inbound students, our twenty 2014-2015 outbound students and six Interact students who were all very busy throughout the activity filled weekend. While the conference didn’t officially start until 6:45pm on Friday after a reception for the Rotarians, The students were all required to be there by 3:00pm in order to rehearse for the parade of flags as part of the opening ceremony. The prestigious honor of carrying the flag of their home country/host country is a moment of great pride. For the outbound students the receipt of their blazers was a defining moment, as now they are official. After the dinner, they were able to kick back and relax at their own dance party.

After a late night, the students awoke early on Saturday and split into two separate groups. The first group headed to Northern Lights Rock and Ice, a unique and exciting outdoor challenge and leadership facility unlike anything else in the North East. The students and their 9 chaperones participated in many activities including ice breaker and problem solving activities and then moved onto different elements that included low rope activities, a 25 foot rock climbing wall and a 24 foot “Leap of Faith” where the participants climbed atop a 24 foot pole and then jumped out for the target while having faith in the bystanders below, their fellow participants. The highlight was 42 feet in the air, the High Ropes Course that allowed the entire group to progress through these high challenges with their facilitators that proved a powerful shared learning experience to add amazing new perspectives of one’s self, communication and teamwork. On the high course, all the hard work was rewarded with a flight down dual 450 foot zip wires! The second group, who said “Hey, heights are not for me!” went into downtown Burlington and supported the Burlington Rotary Club with their annual fundraiser called Hoopapalooza which benefits children throughout VT through a “Puppets in Education” program. While the group had intended to participate in the event as a hula hooping team, the group, some of whom really couldn’t hula-hoop, decided when they saw that the competing teams were in costumes and preforming choreographed routines, that it was best that they not perform. They based the decision on 4 factors:

- It was the truth that they were not good.
- It was not fair to all the spectators to have to make them watch the performance.
- Their performance would do nothing to promote good will and could not better friendships.
- Would most certainly NOT be beneficial to all concerned.

The group did have a great time at Hoopapalooza, meeting and talking to the members of the Burlington Rotary Club about Youth Exchange. They then took in some of the sights and attractions Burlington has to offer, including Ben & Jerry’s. Now that was good for all concerned.

Once back at the hotel, the students all went and rehearsed for the evenings “Youth Exchange Talent Show” which was held after the Governor’s Banquet. The students entertained the Rotarians with song and dance, a few instrumental songs, a comedy routine and some skits, including a multi-cultural version of Snow White the likes that no one had ever seen. The evening ended with all the students singing an original song, “We Want Blazers”. They all then changed and gathered and played games that were actually tests and challenges that would help prepare them to be the best ambassadors possible.

Sunday, the student’s attended the morning session and then had to say goodbye. They left Burlington with memories that will last a lifetime.

Youth Exchange & Interact Students
Golf at the District Conference

Pictured below are the brave lucky ones who enjoyed a day on the golf course golfers at this year’s District Conference.

Rotarians Ejected from Burlington Museum

Saturday afternoon (May 3rd) was free time for Rotarians and guests. Some options were the Ethan Allen luncheon cruise on Lake Champlain, Taste of Vermont Tour, Trolley Tour, Bike Tour and you could explore the Burlington area on your own. All activities were enjoyed - so as the feedback indicated.

One of the activities - the Ethan Allen luncheon cruise - was an interesting experience - which may be difficult to describe but it was one that “you had to be there”.

After the bus arrived at dockside, and the crew was ready, Rotarians and partners boarded the Spirit of Ethan Allen III. During the cruise everyone enjoyed the barbecue luncheon buffet as well as the scenery.

When the ship was heading homeward the sky was looking like mother nature had something in store for everyone - like a rain shower. Everyone was hoping that the bus would be awaiting the arrival of the ship so that shelter would be immediately available.

As everyone was disembarking the ship they could see that there was no bus awaiting! Everyone mulled around wishing and hoping the bus would soon arrive. And the storm was bearing down on everyone waiting. Then the rain came along with some wind. Everyone knew that they were going to get drenched (where’s your rain coat when you need it?).

So what was nearby for shelter? - the Burlington Museum - so many sought shelter in the vestibule of the museum. “You must leave the area as you are creating a fire hazard” we heard from the museum. So out everyone fled with no smoke or fire in sight. Like good Rotarians they left in peace (well maybe a few discouraging words were uttered).

About an hour or so of waiting the bus arrived and everyone was happy - and the 4-Way Test lives on.

Photo by HMS
At the business meeting at the District Conference Tom Rogers was unanimously approved to be the District Governor for the Rotary year of 2016-2017. Congratulations Tom! Also pictured is DGE Scott MacDonell and District Secretary Linda Wyse.

Lynn Freshman - leading the Rotarians in song

Just how many pins do you have on your blazer?

And Rotarian “Moose”

Pictured above, left to right - Left side - top to bottom: Ed Kime, Julie Carney, Helen Zamboni, Laurie Vonglis; Right side - top to bottom: Kirk Vanderbilt, Terry Lemen, Kevin Tompsett, Tim Dickinson.

Photo provided
A few of the many displays at the Conference
Did you see these along your way to Burlington - or - on your return trip home?

Kathy Sigrist (left) returned Penn Yan Rotary Club’s moose to Diane Krans, President of Penn Yan Rotary. Penn Yan’s moose fell into the Grand Canyon and presumed lost forever. Welcome back Mr. Moose!

At the Sunday Morning Memorial Service

In Remembrance of those that passed away during this Rotary Year - 2014-2015

DG Ellen with members of the Conference Committee

One of many items offered at the Silent Auction for the benefit of The Rotary Foundation - which raised over $6,800. “Thanks” to all successful bidders!”

Silent Auction

Photos by HMS