



WEDNESDAY WRAP-UP

Of the Geneva, New York Rotary Club

www.GenevaRotaryClub.org

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www.RotaryEClubOne.org

**Wednesday,
December
7, 2016**

Next Week:

St. Peter's Community Arts
Academy Christmas Program

President Dick Austin led the pledge and invocation with a special remembrance of the events on December 7, 1941 at Pearl Harbor

Visiting Rotarians

Karen Quartaro (Speaker), Newark Rotary President

Guests

- Ben Kabat guest of Dave Cook
- Erica LaRussa, guest of Jim Adams
- Interact co-President Stephen Fazio

50/50

- Margaret Wyant split \$93/46 with Polio Plus

Announcements

- President Dick Austin reminded us that the Club will be working the Community Lunch Program on Thursday, December 22.
- Lisa Ventura reported that the Geneva General Hospital is selling raffle tickets to benefit the Auxiliary. The drawing will be Friday.
- John Oughterson announced that we would be inducting a new Rotarian on December 21. Interact will also be having their bake sale that day. Bring your checkbooks!
- Charlie Bauder still needs bell ringers for Christmas Eve. He still has a few slots to fill.

Fines and Happy Dollars

- Dick Austin took his kids to the Black Box Theatre to see "Frog and Toad". He said they loved it and even got to sit in the middle of a "lily pad"! He also attended the Eastern Cities dinner and was happy to meet Rotary International President, John Germ.
- Dick also asked for a round of applause for the Santa Train. He reported that there were a lot of happy kids! (*We agree, Dick!*)
- Jim Adams was in an accident earlier today and totaled his car. Fortunately, no one was hurt. (*We're glad your're O.K. Jim!*) He also took his grandchildren on the Santa Train and they loved it!

- Charlie Bauder spent Thanksgiving in Florida but hit a lot of fog and rain on the way home. Fortunately, he made it home safely.
- Deb Lind-Schmitz tried to set a world record by having 32 family members for Thanksgiving dinner at her son's house. She also had a sad dollar as she has been called to jury duty on Dec. 12th.
- Ellen Wayne's son turned 21 and "lived to tell the tale". She was thankful for fellow Rotarians who were able to get her Santa Train tickets at the last minute.
- Mickey Gilbert-Schultz reminded us that it was Carol Chester's birthday. She pointed out that it would have been her father's 104th birthday today and that he was a WWII veteran.
- Lisa Ventura had a happy dollar for the good food that we were all eating.
- Tara Rago said her five-year-old son was happy to ring the bell. *(Tara, not sure what you meant – the Salvation Army Bell?)* She was also proud to announce that she finished her Christmas shopping in one day! *(Geez, Tara, you don't have to rub it in!)*
- John Watson fined anyone not wearing their badge.
- Chris Lavin had a lot of happy dollars for the Interact Club who sang their way through the Santa Train. He also pointed out that our school superintendent Trina Newton, aka Mrs. Claus, did a super job and even cleaned the trains in between runs.
- Mike Rusinko got into the holiday spirit by attending St. Peter's choir concert last weekend. He looks forward to their program at our meeting next week.
- Mary Gearan had happy dollars for several of our Interactors who were inducted into the National Honor Society. See the complete list below. *(We are always proud of our Interactors and their accomplishments! Good job!)*
- Dave Cook said he had an ex-wife at one time, but ended up with two more on the Santa Train posing as Mrs. Claus. *(I have no words.....!)*
- Charlie Bartishevich was happy to say that he was on time for the Santa Train and that his family had a great time.
- Lisa Petronio once again thanked everyone who helped on the Santa Train. She said she "loves" us! *(We love you too, Lisa!)* She said we had 137 volunteers this year – the highest ever. In the past we have had 750 riders - this year **1000 riders!!!!**
- Dave Cook added a thank you to Finger Lakes Railway for their commitment and that we can do this again next year.
- Lisa Ventura noted that Mike Rusinko and Laney Pufnock really proved they believe in "Service Above Self" as they parked cars for folks who were late so they could get on the train!! *(This is why we love our Rotarians!)*
- Dick Austin fined Karen Quartaro for missing the Eastern Cities Dinner, and for not giving proper recognition to the Geneva Club for sponsoring Newark when they were established as a club.

Interact Report

Here's what happened last week (11/29) at Interact:

1) Thank you all that helped with this year's Santa Train. It was a huge success! Congratulations to those who earned their coveted, purple Interact t-shirt for volunteering their time.

2) Our next volunteer opportunity will be Operation Merry Christmas from December 14th to the 17th right after school. This is where we will fill boxes with gifts for the Center of Concern. Saturday the 17th will be the distribution day.

3) Our next meeting will be Tuesday, December 6th at 2:35pm. See you there!

My Best,
Sydney Mittiga

Addendum to the Interact Report

It is worth noting that 27 of this year's 38 Inductees into the National Honor Society are members of the Interact Club. If you rode one of the Santa Trains this year, you would have met many of them. Here are their names: Ally Acquilano, Joe Arruda, Savannah Bradley, Kyle Caster, Alan Cha, Olivia DiDuro, Liz Ergil, Patrick FitzGerald, Bryna Gage, Jack Harris, Jamel Jackson, Nate Jacon, Madison Kaenzig, Maddie Kerlan, Tatiana Klestinec, Blake Knifley, Anthony Marcuccilli Keyla Martinez, Clare McCulloch, Ben Mittiga, Sydney Mittiga, Angel Ochoa, Margot Perry, Kyle Pierce, Lily Sellers, Curtis Shultz, and Jason Wheatley.

Of the current Senior Members of National Honor Society, 22 of 33 are Interactors: Patrick Asamoah, Mike Baroody, Nico Bersani, Mallory Burrall, Jacob Chilbert, Michael DeVaney, Quinn Eighmey, Austin Ellison, Trevor Ess, Stephen Fazio, Kathleen Gearan, Max Harris, Sean Hesler, Phoebe Lehman, Sara Maher, Matt Murney, Patrick Mahoney, Adam Nardone, Allie Roach, Meghan Sands, Mark Suchewski, and James Williams.

We are extremely proud of all of these young people.

James Williams, Assistant Secretary of Interact this year, who will be an outbound Rotary Exchange Student next year, sent us this note:

Dear Geneva Rotary ~~Club~~ Club,

Thank you very much for sponsoring me! I have been accepted into the exchange program. I was selected to go to Slovakia which was my number one choice! I hope to represent our country and club in the best manner.

- James Williams

Presentation

Karen Quartaro of the Finger Lakes Visiting Nurse Service gave a presentation on the "We Honor Veterans" program, which partners with Ontario Yates Hospice. Before she

started her presentation she asked anyone who was a veteran or had a family member who are/were veterans, to please stand. She thanked them for their service.

We Honor Veterans, is a program of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) in collaboration with the Department of Veterans Affairs. By recognizing the unique needs of America’s veterans and their families, community providers, in partnership with VA staff, will learn how to accompany and guide them through their life stories toward a more peaceful ending.

There are four levels of the We Honor Veterans Program:

- Education – Staff and Volunteer Education and Programs
- Organizational Policies and Procedures
- Hospice Veteran Partnerships

One of the most important parts of this program is the Pinning Ceremony.

- The purpose of the pinning ceremony is to publicly acknowledge the military service and sacrifices made by the Veteran and his/her family.
- A blanket and pin are given to each veteran at the ceremony

Geneva Rotary’s grant will be used to fund this program.

<p>Four way test: “Of the things we think, say or do:”</p> <p><i>1. Is it The Truth?</i> <i>2. Is it Fair to All Concerned?</i> <i>3. Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendships?</i> <i>4. Will it be beneficial for All Concerned?</i></p>				
<p>Dick Austin President</p>	<p>Tara Rago President-Elect</p>	<p>Shad Cook Vice President</p>	<p>Ford Weiskittel Secretary</p>	<p>Karl Hagen Treasurer</p>