

BULLETIN # 966

The Four-Way Test

November 5, 2008

1. Is it the TRUTH? 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned? 3. Will it build GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL TO ALL concerned?
 P.O. Box 86, Plattsburgh, NY 12901 www.plattsburghrotary.org (518) 563-7040

Program: Marci Hall on Fort Ticonderoga ~ 100 yrs and Counting



Alan Booth (L), Marci Hall, Director of Marketing at Fort Ticonderoga (C) and Cornelia Forrence (R)

“Fort Ticonderoga has played an instrumental role in the history of the North Country,” said Fort Ticonderoga’s Director of Marketing, Marci Hall. The Fort is a stunning example of an 18th Century stronghold. Its strategic location on the western shore of Lake Champlain allowed easy control over water traffic and trade. To this day, Fort Ticonderoga is an important waterway for tourism.

A Little History: The Fort was originally built by the French in 1755 and remained under their control until the British took it in 1759. American troops captured the Fort by surprise in 1775 when Ethan Allen, Benedict Arnold and the Green Mountain Boys came from Vermont and caught the British unaware. In 1777, the British managed to regain control, but then abandoned the Fort following the British surrender at Saratoga. The Fort fell into disrepair, and in 1820 it was bought by private citizen, William Ferris Pell. He stopped the pilfering, turned the decaying ruins into a hotel and began the long history of restoration.

Side Story — Samuel D. Champlain was said to have been traveling with northern native tribes when they encountered the Iroquois. Hall said Champlain came with the intention of uniting the tribes and ensuring the flow of goods and traffic was open to all. “Unfortunately he ended up killing two chiefs and wounding a third. Relations with the natives were a little soured after that,” she said.

Visitors Experience Today: Changes have been made to the Fort. “If you’ve been to the Fort in the last 100 years, you know there were no restrooms. This has since changed,” Hall said. In addition to new facilities, there is a full roster of educational programs. Visitors can wander through the King’s Garden and Pavilion, visit the battle-grounds and witness re-enactments.

Events Big and Small: In 2008, Hall said 2,196 re-enactors battled it out at Fort Ticonderoga. Weddings, business meetings, field trips and small private functions

were common occurrences. Currently there is an initiative to build special partnerships with Clinton and Essex counties. Hall is developing a trip that will take visitors through the Adirondack Park, to the Wild Center (tupper Lake) and to other historic/ tourist spots throughout the region.

The Mars Center is the new economic engine for the North Country. Fort Ticonderoga received a wonderful contribution from Deborah Clarke Mars. The Mars Center is an incredible building and brilliant resource for conferences, weddings, dinners and other special events. It’s an educational resource that should be utilized more often by the North Country.

The Future Fort Ticonderoga is currently experiencing some financial upheaval. Hall said they have had to close some buildings and make some changes in staff. Despite this they are forging ahead optimistically. In closing, Hall said, “Any rumor of our demise is greatly exaggerated.”

Q: Will you have to sell items in order to stay afloat financially?

A: I’m not really sure what the board of directors is planning. It is in the board’s hands at this point. Several of the Pell family are still involved. There was some hope that we could sell some items as a quick fix (i.e. a painting), but they are not able to do that according to NYS Law.

Q: Do you have facilities for mooring boats?

A: Not only did working on the Pavilion get put on the back burner, but the Fort is also without a proper dock at this time. Intrepid sailors moor out in the lake and row to shore.

Q. Can you tie up at the Ferry Docks?

A: Yes, but it’s a bit of a walk from there.

Q: The structure is independent, correct?

A: Yes, it’s privately owned and Fort Ti is a National Historic Site. Options for the State taking the Fort over is not a solution people are excited about. So, it hasn’t been look at.

Q: Forbes said the Mars Family is worth about \$10 billion. Why didn’t they come up with a few more million to finish the projects they started?

A: It was a personal falling out. Fort Ti is still part of the Mars Foundation and surprisingly it does some funding from them. Funding now comes from grants.

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Bulletin Editor
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Meetings
 Wednesdays 12:15 p.m.
 Elks Club, Plattsburgh



Fort Ticonderoga

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 11/17 Board Meeting, Noon, CCC Dining Hall—PARC
- 11/29 Bell Ringing for Salvation Army (Wal-Mart 10-3)
- 12/17 Holiday Meeting at Lake Forest

2009:
6/5-7 24th Annual Fishing Classic

Announcements:

- The Membership Committee will meet briefly following today's meeting.
- Monday, Nov 17, is the next board meeting at CCC Dining Hall (PARC). This can be used as a make up meeting for any club member.
- The Rotary Store will be open on Wednesday, Nov. 12
- On Wednesday, Nov. 26, and Dec. 3, the Club will be taking collections for the Salvation Army, Christmas Bureau and the local nursing homes. Please come with a generous spirit!
- Saturday, Nov. 29, is the Rotary Bell Ringing for Salvation Army. See CJ Soper to sign up next Wednesday. Ringing site: Wal-Mart, 10 a.m.- 3 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 10 is the Annual Meeting. This is the only day of the year set aside for tipping the staff who work hard for us every week.
- Wednesday, Dec. 17 is the Annual Meeting at Lake Forrest.

October Food Shelf Report — Elle Berger

A generous Rotarian is prepared to donate \$300 if the Club is able to raise \$500 for December. Save your pennies and contribute what you can. In October, \$183 went to Food Shelf and \$178 was raised for the Salvation Army.

Other News: *The Chronicle of Philanthropy* listed the top 400 nonprofit organizations. Rotary International was number 151 for raising \$132 million. Congratulations to the United Way who was ranked #1. *Note: University of Michigan raised substantially more this year than Ohio State.*

Seasoned Member: Cornelia Forrence Corn attended University of Pennsylvania where she earned a B.A. She received an M.B.A. from Columbia Business School and went to work for Chase Manhattan. She got married, moved to New Jersey and moved to the Adirondacks in the '90s. She has two very successful children. Corn currently works at UBS Financial Services as a Financial Adviser and is pleased that Rod Giltz introduced her to the club.

Guests: Roger Ahrens (Jon Cooper); Sybil Kiroy (Paul Connelly)

ON-LINE MAKEUP: www.rotaryclubone.org

NEARBY MAKE UP LOCATIONS:

Mon.	Burlington	12:10pm	Wyndham Hotel
	Canton	12:15pm	Best Western
	Ottawa	12:30pm	Ottawa Marriott Hotel
Tues.	Plattsburgh Sunrise	7:30am	Elk's Club
	Saranac Lake	7:30am	Hotel Saranac
	Massena	12:15pm	Elk's Lodge
	St. Albans	12:15pm	Masonic Temple
	Montreal	12:30pm	Holiday Inn-Pt. Claire
	Grand Isle	6:00pm	So Hero Congregational
Wed.	Middlebury	7:15am	Rosie's Restaurant
	Albany	12:15pm	Wolferts Roost Ctry Club on Van Rensselaer Blvd.
	Tupper Lake	12:15pm	Pine Grove Restaurant
	Potsdam	12:15pm	Sergi's Banquet Hall
	Watertown	12:15pm	Best Western Carriage House
	Chateaugay	6:15pm	Leonard's Cherry Knoll Rest.
	AuSable Forks	7:00pm	Ambulance Hall (no meal)
Thurs.	Williston	7:15am	Will Federated Church
	Lake Placid	7:30am	Howard Johnson's
	Watertown AM	7:30am	Best Western Carriage House
	South Burlington	7:30am	VT National Country Club
	Champlain-Rouses Pt.	7:45am	Old Tyme Café
	Malone	Noon	Gallagher's
	Colchester-Milton	12:10pm	Hampton Inn
	Ogdensburg	12:15pm	Gran-View Restaurant
Fri.	Burlington Sunrise	7:15am	Ethan Allen Club
	Old Montreal	12:15pm	Holiday Inn Select

Fines: Bob Donlan spun for \$4. Heidi Clute spun for \$5. Corn Forrence's phone rang twice for \$20.

Auction: Gibson Brothers tickets for the show on November 22 at Peru High School. Two tickets worth \$30 went to PP Marty Mannix for \$20.

50/50: The pot today was \$1,709, and Tim McSweeney drew the King of Clubs.

Another candle burning for:

Past President Martin Mannix (11/7)
Robert Miller (11/11)

	Nov. 12	Nov. 19	Nov. 26
Program	Progress at Novabus Jim Tooley	US Attorney Gen. TBA	Annual Meeting Steve Frederick
Greeters	Martin Mannix & Vicki Marking	Tim McSweeney & Robert Miller	Faith Long & Charles Paepke
Hospitality	Lori Mathieu	Donald Moore	Bob Parks
Blessing	Peter Cadieux	Kevin Killeen	Stan Ransom
Introductions	Bill McBride	Ellie Murray	Bob Perkins
Program Intro.	Bob Smith	TBA	—
Thank Speaker	John McGaulley	Dave Napolitan	—
New Mem. Talk	—	Kristen Shrives	—
Seasoned Mem.	—	—	Bob Parks
Food Shelf	—	—	—



THE ROTARY CLUB
P.O. Box 86,
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
On Lake Champlain
www.plattsburghrotary.org
Charter Granted: April 1, 1926

FIRST CLASS