

**Program:** Rodney Brown, Clinton County Deputy Administrator – *Update on Plattsburgh International Airport*

Rodney Brown is the interim airport manager, and to his relief, a new airport manager will start work next Monday. Mr. Brown gave the membership of the Rotary Club of Plattsburgh a history of the airport, an update on the current state of operations and what he foresees for Plattsburgh International Airport.

In the late 90's, at the urging of the Plattsburgh Airbase Redevelopment Corporation (PARC), the Clinton County Legislature completed an in-house study of the possibility of moving the Clinton County Airport to the former air base.

While promising, many preliminary steps had to fall in place before the move could be seriously contemplated. Some things that had to be accomplished included: 1) negotiating with PARC for land and buildings; 2) the development of a new terminal; 3) the buyout of existing leases, assets, and loans; 4) FAA approval; 5) getting an approved MAP (Military Airports Program) federal grant; 6) buying out and moving existing Clinton County Airport tenants (a \$4 million endeavor); 7) and finding an FBO – Fixed Base Operator to take care of the needs of the commercial airlines.

Over two years, these hurdles were crossed successfully, and a poor risk became a calculated risk – the county signed agreements with PARC and the FAA. Of the \$12 million in eventual development costs, 97.5 percent were covered by federal funds. Much money was saved due to equipment left behind by the Air Force, such as 12 snow trucks and some deicing equipment. In 2008, the first full year of operation, 43,000 people flew out of the new airport. In 2009, they are on track for over 60,000. In contrast, between 2003 and 2007, no more than 3,000 people flew out of the old county airport.

Mr. Brown cited the difficulties in attracting airlines and gave credit to the Plattsburgh–North Country Chamber of Commerce for helping attract Allegiant Air to Plattsburgh. The airline recognized the parallels between this market (Plattsburgh–Montreal) and its existing operations in Bellingham, WA, which services Vancouver travelers. Allegiant is now flying 13 flights a week from Plattsburgh, and in mid-April that will increase to 16. He noted that almost 80 percent of passengers are Canadians, which provides a major support for the new airport.

Since acquiring the airport, Clinton County have built 20 “T Hangars” and half of them are full. The county has also constructed and leased eight “nose docks”, which

were renovated at a cost of \$3million each. Clinton County also depends on rent and revenue from the industrial side of the site to make this all work. This spring the old alert facility and FB-111 shelters will be demolished, leaving room for more expansion.

Mr; Brown said future plans may include direct flights to Albany and New York City; flights to the West, such as Las Vegas; an expansion of the already crowded terminal; expanded cargo and general aviation; industrial development; and a possible restaurant and hotel.

### This Week

Pres. Elect Bonnie Black filled in for Pres. Steve. She reported on her trip to Nicaragua with Marty Mannix. She brought back a certificate of thanks for aid in completing construction of the Paul Harris School.



Dave Napolitano (right) listens at Rodney Brown, Clinton County Deputy Administrator, talks about updates at the airport.

### Announcements

- Jack Dee reminded us that the Rotary Rascals will participate – no, will be victorious – in the Literacy Challenge, Saturday, March 7, at noon at Champlain Centre North. Rotarians are urged to support the team.
- The next board meeting will be held Monday, March 16, at the Clinton Community College cafeteria (PARC). All are welcome.
- Rick Leibowitz spoke about Rotary Radio Day, April 8, at WIRY studios. Rules and regulations are posted on the website. Bonnie made an executive decision, effectively removing businesses from the No-No list if they were sold by former Rotarians. Rick pleaded for complete, accurate applications, including checks and copy attached (so Sonia doesn't kick them back to him!) Special for ads paid by March 4 – double the ads and mentions – 4 ads and 8 mentions for just \$100!
- If you haven't paid your dues, please do so ASAP.

#### ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

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Peter Bashaw — Massena

#### ROTARY CLUB OF PLATTSBURGH

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Bob Smith	Keith Tyo

Bulletin Editor  
Peter Cadieux

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

- Auction items: 4 lift tickets to Whiteface courtesy of Bill McBride. Jack Prim bought one pair for \$80 and Bill Rowe another pair for \$70.

**Guests:** Susan Levaque (Al Folsom); Maria Alexander (Bob Perkins); and Beth Drollette, (Jack Prim).

**Happy Thoughts**

- \$5 from John Sieden to vote Bill Rowe off the island.
- Jack Dee publicizing “A Taste of the Tavern” on Saturday, March 21 at the West Side Ballroom. This is a fundraiser for the Battle of Plattsburgh;
- Colin Read went to Donaldsville, LA with Jarvis Green of the NE Patriots and some Foxboro, MA high school students to repair homes of needy elderly residents. He’d like to do the same here in our area and invited responses from Rotarians;
- Bill Rowe announced a fundraiser for the North Country Cultural Center for the Arts at Taboo this Saturday – tickets are \$100 for 2 – lots of cash prizes and John Sieden’s band “Johnny Tsunami” will be playing;
- Sara Rowden for John Bernardi surveying interest for Rotary Ski Day, which will be held on March 25;
- Gil Zahn (with support from Carmen Carpentier) announcing that Sohan Patel is out of the hospital after a successful kidney transplant. He will be staying at a hotel in Albany for the next month as he recuperates so he can near the Medical Center.

**50/50:** John Cooper picked the 5 of Diamonds. We are going for the Ace of Spades— there are 22 cards left and there are still 2 jokers left, each worth \$50!

**Another Candle Burning For:** Ellen Bouchard and Steve Frederick (2/15); Bob Parks (2/16); Vicki Marking (2/17) and Howard Lowe (2/20).

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

3/16	Board Meeting
4/8	Rotary Radio Day
5/2	District 7040 Assembly
6/5-7	24th Annual Fishing Classic

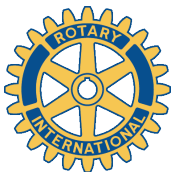
**ON-LINE MAKEUP:** [www.rotaryclubone.org](http://www.rotaryclubone.org)

**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

**Make-ups:** Rotary Orientation (1/30), Bryon Tuthil, Ronna Bosko, Sybil Kiroy, Peter Cadieux and Chuck Paepke; E-Club: Anne Cutaia (1/21), Tammy Bell (1/14), Rosemary Souza-Botten(1/14). Lake Worth (2/4): Frank Hamilton; Program Committee (2/2): Cornelia Forrence, Bob Smith, Paul Sands, Stan Ransom, Bob Parks

	March 4	March 11	March 18
<b>Program</b>	Cartoonist Stan Burdick	Club Assembly Steve Frederick	Wild Center Report Stephanie Ratcliffe
<b>Greeters</b>	Bob Grugle & Ray Guydosh	Ewa Jankowska & James Judkins	Kevin Killeen & Sybil Kiroy
<b>Hospitality</b>	Brian Hammond	Kevin Kehoe	Tom Kononan
<b>Blessing</b>	Larry Goodman	Kevin Killeen	Stan Ransom
<b>Introductions</b>	Anne Hansen	Jay Kerley	Rick Leibowitz
<b>Program Intro.</b>	Stan Ransom	Steve Frederick	Howard Lowe
<b>Thank Speaker</b>	Don Ireland	—	Sonia Long
<b>New Mem. Talk</b>	—	—	—
<b>Seasoned Mem.</b>	Steven Frederick	—	Donald Moore
<b>Food Shelf</b>	—	—	—



**THE ROTARY CLUB**  
P.O. Box 86,  
Plattsburgh, NY 12901  
On Lake Champlain  
[www.plattsburghrotary.org](http://www.plattsburghrotary.org)  
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**FIRST CLASS**