

THE BULLETIN

A Monthly Publication of the Rotary Club of Plattsburgh



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity
January 2012
Bulletin # 1100

Rotary News Holiday Meals

A new initiative cropped up during the holidays that had Rotarians doing more good deeds.

Bob Parks chaired the committee that brought holiday meals to families in need who otherwise would have gone without. His last minute plea for help with this project inspired 34 club members to deliver turkey dinners with all the fixings to 36 families (50 adults and 67 children).

Parks worked closely with Clinton County's Community Action Agency, JCEO, to identify families who met low-income guidelines.

The committee compiled several humorous and touching

stories. Parks said, "When I first called the family I was assigned, I had an elderly gentleman hang up on me twice.

"Every time I said Rotary he



hung up. Finally I said 'I have some food for you' and he took the call. He'd had problems with telemarketers and was leery about taking calls," said Parks.

Sara Rowden and her husband delivered a meal to a

woman who Rowden said wouldn't meet her eye. The woman broke down in tears and said, "I feel like I'm begging." Rowden said, "Right now you're in need. Some day I may be in need." She was so grateful and Rowden said it really made her Christmas special.

Other Rotarians had similarly wonderful experiences meeting the families. Some bonded with the children and plan to stay in touch. Others offered additional gifts such as books.

The initiative was a huge success and will hopefully help more families in 2012.

Fun & Fellowship

In place of the club's monthly evening of fellowship typically held on the "First Thursday" of every month, the club has decided to try something new. Club members and guests are invited to cocktails and dinner at Chicago Uno for an evening of fun and fellowship.

Jan. 21, Chicago Uno
Cocktails: 6 p.m.
Dinner: 7 p.m.

Coming Events

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| Jan. 4 | Program: Club Assembly |
| Jan. 9 | Program Committee Meeting, Ground Round, Noon |
| Jan. 11 | Program: John Jablonski |
| Jan. 16 | Board Meeting, CCC Dining Hall, Noon |
| Jan. 18 | Program: Ken Wibecan, PSUNY |
| Jan. 21 | Fun & Fellowship: Chicago Uno's 7 p.m. |
| Jan. 25 | Program: Penny Clute |

Literacy Challenge

March 5, 2012 - The Rotary Club will participate in the annual Literacy Challenge event held at Champlain Center Mall. The club has earned its place among the ranks of winners in previous years. Let's do it again in 2012!

Rotary Holiday Meal

Thirty-four Rotarians participated in a food drive that provided turkeys and all of the fixings to 50 adults and 67 children during the holidays. Thank you the club members who helped make the holidays special for these families.

Committee Updates

Club Assembly

Strong membership, active participation makes for a "dynamic club."

Calling it a "dynamic club", Jon Cooper, president of the Rotary Club of Plattsburgh, told the noontime members at the club assembly on Wednesday, Jan. 4, he was very pleased with the direction the club is headed. Cooper said, "If we take on a mission and focus on it, we are very successful," referencing the recent Fall Rotary Dis-

trict Conference held in Plattsburgh and annual support of the Battle of Plattsburgh festivities as examples.

However, Cooper said the club's Board of Directors recently reviewed its strategic plan and came away with a few questions: What do we want to be? Are we good enough? What do we need to do to improve or insure our success for the future?

He said the board was concerned that while we have more than 100 members, not everyone is active in projects or committees. "Success is not defined by the number of members," said Cooper.

Rotarian Elle Berger offered a suggestion she has seen on other volunteer groups and clubs. She said there are two styles of volunteers: those who give time and those who give money.

"We take a risk at times trying to make them the same person," said Berger.

The Membership Committee, under the leadership of co-chairs John Prim and Bob Parks, has been successful in recruiting new younger members. However, the board felt

more should be done to boost membership in general.

"We all agreed that we needed to improve the brand for the club," Cooper said. "The Board feels we need to do an educational process in the community so the public will readily recognize what Rotary is all about. That is one of the challenges that we continue to have in the years to come. A solid brand and solid membership means you will have great success in fundraising. The more fundraising we do will mean we can give back more to the community."

He added attracting younger members is the key to the future success of the club. However, we need to count on the more experienced or "seasoned" members to make a vital active contribution to our club where possible

Cooper told the members, "We have an absolutely dynamic club. You should be proud of the club. Its financially sound, and I think we are well positioned going forward to be even stronger in the years ahead."

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rotary International

President Kalyan Banerjee

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Governor Bill Gray

Rotary Club of Plattsburgh

President - Jon Cooper

President Elect - Catherine Forget

President Nominee - Victoria Marking

Secretary - Barbara Straw

Treasurer - Marsha Cook

Sgt. at Arms - Ellen Bouchard

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Kerry R. Haley

Courtney E. Chandler

Joshua A. Kretser

Peter J. Ensel

Website & Bulletin

Amy Kretser

Keith Tyo

Meetings: Wednesday 12:15 p.m.

American Legion, Quarry Rd. Plattsburgh

Program Highlights

The Eagle's Nest

Dec. 7, 2011



Erik Eaglefeather shared the story behind the beginnings of his veterinary clinic, The Eagle's Nest, in Plattsburgh, NY.

Congressman Bill Owens

Dec. 21, 2011



Congressman Bill Owens provided updates to the Rotary Club about the happenings in Washington, D.C.

Holiday Party - Lake Forest

Dec. 14, 2011



The Lake Forest Holiday party was a gleeful event filled with song and fellowship.

Champlain Valley Winter Wine Festival

February 3rd & 4th: This annual weekend-long event includes a Grand Tasting and Silent Auction on Saturday in the beautiful Plattsburgh City Hall Auditorium and an exclusive Wine Dinner at Irises Cafe and Wine Bar. On Friday, enjoy some pre-Valentine's day romance with an exclusive three course dinner with wine pairings and live music afterwards. On Saturday, mingle with and learn from food and wine experts while sampling their delicious products at the Grand Tasting and Silent Auction. All proceeds benefit the Champlain Valley Transportation Museum. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased at www.cvwinefestival.com or from the Champlain Valley Transportation Museum.

Irish Jig

The Glengarry Bhoys are back again this year to benefit the CVPH Nursing Scholarship fund. The Bhoys will be performing at 7 p.m. on both Friday January 20 and Saturday, January 21 at Olive Ridley's. The opening act for Friday is Mero Factor and on Saturday is Eat Sleep Funk. Tickets are \$20 per show or you can get a weekend pass for \$35. Get your tickets at Olive Ridley's on Court Street, from the Community Outreach Office at CVPH, by calling 562-7595 or order on-line at <https://www.cvph.org/Foundation/DonationStation/DonateOnline/>.

Community Announcements

American Legion

Club members raised over \$1200 for the wonderful service provided during the weekly lunches. Legion Manager Peter Gallagher accepted the check on behalf of the entire staff who expressed their gratitude. Shown Right: Peter Gallagher.



Rotary Pride

More Information

Rotary Make-Ups

Online Makeup: www.rotaryclub.org

Mon.	Burlington	12:10 p.m.	Wyndham Hotel
	Canton	12:15 p.m.	Best Westerns
	Ottawa	12:30 p.m.	Ottawa Marriott Hotel
Tues.	Plattsburgh Sunrise	7:30 a.m.	American Legion Post 20
	Saranac Lake	7:30 a.m.	Nonna Fina
	Massena	12:15 p.m.	Elk's Lodge
	St. Albans	12:15 p.m.	Masonic Temple
	Montreal Lakeside	12:30 p.m.	Holiday Inn - Pt. Claire
Wed.	Watertown p.m.	5:30 p.m.	Black River Valley Club
	Grand Isle	6:00 p.m.	So. Hero Congregational
	Middlebury	7:15 a.m.	Rosie's Restaurant
Thurs.	Albany	12:15 p.m.	Wolferts Roost Ctry Club on Van Rensselaer Blvd.
	Tupper Lake	12:15 p.m.	Pine Grove Restaurant
	Potsdam	12:15 p.m.	Sergi's Banquet Hall
	Watertown	12:15 p.m.	Best Western Carriage Hse.
	Chateaugay	6:15 p.m.	Leonard's Cherry Knoll Rst.
	AuSable Forks	7:00 p.m.	Ambulance Hall (no meal)
	Williston	7:15 a.m.	Will Federated Church
	Lake Placid	7:30 a.m.	Howard Johnson's
	Watertown AM	7:30 a.m.	Best Western Carriage Hse.
	South Burlington	7:30 a.m.	VT National Ctry. Club
Fri.	Champlain-Rouses Pt.	7:45 a.m.	Dunkin Donuts
	Malone	12:00 p.m.	Gallagher's
	Colchester-Milton	12:10 p.m.	Hampton Inn
	Ogdensburg	12:15 p.m.	Gran-View Restaurant
	Burlington Sunrise	7:15 a.m.	Ethan Allen Club

Rotary Club of Plattsburgh

More information about the Rotary Club of Plattsburgh is available online at www.plattsburghrotary.org.

Rotary International

Never forget that Rotary works world wide providing resources and services that help those in need. Keep up with Rotary's world news at www.rotary.org

