

THE BULLETIN

A PUBLICATION OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF PLATTSBURGH

BULLETIN # 1030

The Four-Way Test

March 3, 2010

1. Is it the TRUTH? 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
P.O. Box 86, Plattsburgh, NY 12901

3. Will it build GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
www.plattsburghrotary.org

4. Will it be BENEFICIAL TO ALL concerned?
(518) 563-7040

Program: Plattsburgh-North Country Chamber of Commerce President and CEO, Garry Douglas —*The Chamber's View on 2010*

Government affairs are on the minds of most everyone these days, and Garry Douglas took a few minutes to expound on issues facing the Chamber of Commerce and the North Country.

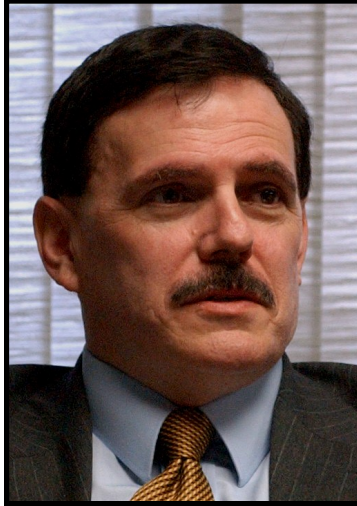
He began by referring to the Chamber's annual [Issues Survey](#). Douglas and his team utilize the results from the survey to address the most pressing concerns facing area businesses.

The tone that was set with the 2010 survey was serious as they move forward with government affairs in Washington and Albany. On the federal level the big question was how people are characterizing their positions on federal spending and debt. Ninety-two percent of the respondents said they were very concerned. Only eight percent said they were supportive of federal spending as it is necessary for economic stimulation. It is a very lopsided response.

The survey identified the top issues affecting state government. For the past 15 years, the number one issue in Albany was cost and access to health insurance. Number two was energy costs. For the first time, survey participants were particularly interested in reducing state spending and reducing state taxes/fees. This is a significant shift in the business community.

The survey also measures the Business Confidence Index. It identifies those who expect their business to increase, remain steady or decrease as compared to the prior year. Encouragingly, there is an 87 percent business confidence index.

"There is a real message of optimism and determination in the business community here in the North Country," said Douglas, who remembered the base closure and other difficult times creating economic hardship in the past. Such adversity has likely made the area stronger, at least as measured by the business community's general outlook.



North Country Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Garry Douglas spoke about the Chamber's expectations for 2010. Douglas reviewed the results of the Chamber's Annual Issues Survey and the Business

While there will always be those who wring their hands and fret about the state of things, Douglas feels strongly that the North Country is resilient. He admits that there are tough times ahead, but by and large, we will be okay.

Douglas said, "We feel that our economic development community is pursuing the right strategies, and this region is positioned better than other places in upstate New York."

According to Douglas, the real message from the survey was revealed when respondents were asked their opinion of the state's economy. Sixty-six percent expect the state's economy to go down this year. The dichotomy between the North Country and the state as a whole is evident. Ask the same question to other communities and the more common result is that they view their local region as problematic while their state sails along with business as usual.

Douglas said one of the biggest lessons learned from the base closure in the 1990's was that the North Country was actually irrelevant. As he explained, we were a disposable part of an imperial state then, and this needed to change.

Douglas and the Chamber of Commerce continue to battle this issue today. Being seen as relevant and important is what guides the Chamber's government affairs efforts.

This Week:

- There will be a quick board meeting after today's meeting (3/3).
- Please notice the information about Polio Plus on the tables. Anyone who still has cartons should turn them in by March 17.
- President Bonnie announced the arrival of Rotary International's 448 Shelter Boxes in Chile.
- Wednesday, March 10 is Rotary Ski Day.
- Next week's meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 11 with the Kiwanis Club at the Elks Club.
- Bonnie received an email from RI stating our club is one of 142 clubs accepted to sponsor an exhibit at the convention. This is a great honor! Please sign up to staff the booth because every shift needs to be filled and we have two weeks to do it.
- The club has a goal of getting six benefactors (\$1,000 when you pass away). So far we have five people!

Committee Moments:

Rotaract—Colin Read: Colin is working with SUNY Plattsburgh students and Maria Alexander to identify



Rotary entered a team in the 2010 Literacy Challenge at Champlain Center Mall on Saturday, March 6. The team met their match against the Ausable Teachers who came out on top. Shown above (L-R): Colin Read, Corn Forrence, Rick Leibowitz and Marty Mannix.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL	
President	John Kenny
Rotary District — 7040	
Governor	Arnold Lawrence
ROTARY CLUB OF PLATTSBURGH	
President	Bonnie Black
First V.P.	Colin Read
Second V.P.	Jon Cooper
Secretary	Barbara Straw
Treasurer	Marsha Cook
Sgt. At Arms	Cathy Forget
Imm. Past. Pres.	Steven Frederick
Directors-at-Large	
John Bernardi	Martin Mannix
Ellen Bouchard	Vicki Marking
Jody Carpenter	Don Moore
Cornelia Forrence	Robert Smith
Robert Frenyea	Keith Tyo
Bulletin Editor	
Amy Kretser	
Meetings	
Wednesdays 12:15 p.m. Elks Club, Plattsburgh	



Leigh Mundy was born in Virginia where she attended high school and was an all-star gymnast. After high school, Leigh attended Radcliff College where she majored in chemistry before moving to Atlanta, Ga. and continued her education studying art. Leigh spent a handful of years working for Phillip Morris doing marketing. She then married Stephens Mundy. After their two children were born, the family moved to West Virginia. Leigh went back to college and earned a degree in psychology while doing event planning and serving as a community volunteer. Stephens accepted his job at CVPH, and they relocated to the North Country. Leigh continues to be involved in the arts community and currently owns and manages several rental properties. She is on the board of the North Country Cultural Center for the Arts and is heading the capital campaign for the Strand Theatre. Leigh is proud to have put down roots here and is looking forward to serving in Rotary.

NEW MEMBER TALKS



Courtney Chandler was born in Plattsburgh and has family roots tied to Rotary. Her father, Mark Chandler, was president of the club back in 1990-1991. She attended Peru High School graduating in 2000. Courtney then went to Plattsburgh State with the intention of becoming a doctor, but discovered stronger interests in business. She graduated with a degree in Business Management. Through her sorority, she gained a passion for community service that continues today. She worked for her father's insurance company through college and upon graduation, she branched out. A marketing job opportunity in the insurance field lead her to Jacksonville, Fla., and then Spokane, Wash. After some soul searching in Washington, Courtney decided to move back to the North Country and is currently the Personnel Manager for Agency Insurance.

seniors who need assistance during the college's alternative spring break. Thanks to everyone who is participating. **Membership Committee—Jack Prim:** The next membership meeting is scheduled for March 17; same place, same time. Jack passed out lists of committees and encouraged everyone to identify volunteer interests. Please submit the forms with corrections/additions to Jack.

Radio Day—Rick Leibowitz: Rick encouraged everyone to sell one ad, and gave a shout out to Chuck Paepke for being last year's leader. He turned over Ange LaMariana's packet to Doug Kashorek and sold an ad in Ange's memory courtesy of a few generous club members.

Bonnie's Bucks:

- Amanda Palmer brought a Rotary banner from the Gualala, Ca. club.

Make Ups: New Member Orientation Meeting: P.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Upcoming Programs and Events

2010

3/10— No Club Meeting (see 3/11)

3/11— Club Meeting (Noon) with Kiwanis at Elks Lodge

3/17—Program: Club Assembly

Programs/Duty Roster:

www.plattsburghrotary.org/plattsburgh/memberduties.asp

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
	Watertown Evening	5:30pm	Black River Valley Club
	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	Jreck Subs, Champlain
	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

Grosskopf (2/3), D. Bray (2/17), P. Cadieux (1/27), B. Black and L. Mundy (2/10); e-Club: S. Walker (11/25, 12/2, 12/9, 12/23, 1/6, 1/13, 1/20, 1/27), T. Boshart (2/10), D. Napolitan (2/3), C. Carpentier (2/3, 2/10, 2/17), S. Kende (2/3), B. Kidwell (2/17), A. Recore (2/10), B. Drollette (2/10), A. Asadorian (2/10), A. Kretser (1/27, 2/3, 2/10).

Another Candle Burning For: Gil Zhan (3/1), David Napolitan (3/2), Jay Kerley (3/3), Elle Berger (3/6), Amy Kretser (3/10), Anne Cutaia (3/12).

50/50: There are 48 cards left in the deck, and the pot is worth \$965.00. Courtney Chandler drew the 3 of spades.

Did You Know...?

TRIVIA

Rotary Fun Facts

In celebration of Rotary's 50th anniversary, postal administrations from 27 countries authorized commemorative postage stamps. The stamp issued in the United States debuted February 23, 1955 — 50 years after the date of the first Rotary club meeting.



THE ROTARY CLUB

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

FIRST CLASS