



Rome Rotary Club News



Treasurer: Sandie Latimer
Secretaries: Karin Tuthill & Karen Roth
Dist 7150 Gov: Jim Gascon
ADG (Area 4): Jana Haldenwang

President: Melissa Graves
President-Elect: Joyce Midlam
Vice President: Carol Mooney
Past President: Joe Fusco

Club Established 1919

October 14, 2011

IMPORTANT

ROTARY PROGRAM IDEAS: Program chair Tiffany Martin has done an outstanding job arranging some excellent programs for us but could use some help. If you have an idea or two, please contact her at: tmartin@romecsd.org or call her at 240-1334.

NOTE TAKER NEEDED: We need a note taker to fill in for Virginia while she is recovering. Virginia covered week 4 every month and week 5 as necessary. Please send an email to RomeRotaryNewsletter@gmail.com if interested. Thank you!



Rome Rotary Meeting of October 11th, 2011 notes:

President Missy Graves reminded the Club that the International Student Day program will be on Saturday, October 29. Kristen Bowers reported that we have about 8 host families but could use 2-3 more. She has reservations for about 25 students so far, not counting SUNY IT, which usually has 20+ students. Please consider helping to host 2-4 (or more!) students in your home and contact Kristen at: kbowers@mvcc.edu if you can help. Also please consider attending the dinner that evening at the Franklin Hotel, with our guests.

Missy confirmed that the Halloween party will not be held this year. The Club may participate in a fall event at Denti School. Stay tuned!

Missy announced that we will have a special visitor and program at the Nov. 1 meeting, Joe Boardman, the director of AMTRAK. Joe is a local boy, born in Taberg, and is a past Rome Rotarian. Guests are invited and a head count is needed for the Franklin. A sign-up sheet was circulated and you should contact Karen Roth at: karen.roth@swe.org if you plan to attend.

The program on Oct 18 will be presented by Rome Rotarian Jeannie Packer on the status of the Rome Rotary Reader program. Jeannie also handed out information packets to those who participate to sign up for the time, grade, and student desired.

A brief report of yesterday's Board meeting was presented. Missy stated that the Club has an opening for President Elect for the Rotary year of July 2013-June 2014. If you

are interested, or have a suggested nominee, please contact her. Joyce Midlam will succeed Missy for the year July 2012-June 2013.

We currently have about 71 members, with a few who still have not paid dues. If you are in arrears, please pay up. Missy also said several funding requests were denied, not because we don't support the causes, rather due to our financial constraints.

The Board also voted to try a points system for Rotary's attendance requirement. A "cheat sheet" will be prepared but Tuesday and Thursday meetings attended will be worth one point each, for example. Other Rotary functions, such as Board meetings, committee meetings, special events, etc. will have a point value. Thirty Two (32) points will be the minimum to maintain membership in Rome Rotary Club.

During the fines portion of the program, Bob Herrmann reported that Virginia had a stroke a week ago Sunday. As first they thought it might be a "senior moment" as she was having difficulties, but realized it was more than that and was admitted to Rome Memorial Hospital. Bob said she received excellent care and was released last Thursday. She will have speech therapy to help overcome effects from the stroke.

Kay DeSimone paid a fine in absentia to say "hello" to her friends in Rome Rotary and to welcome our special guest, County Executive Tony Picente.

Missy introduced our speaker, County Executive Anthony Picente. Tony thanked the Club for the invitation and told his some of his background. He was born in Herkimer County and lived there very briefly before his parents moved to Utica and is a life-long resident of Oneida County. He was raised in Utica and attended schools there, including MVCC and Utica College. He has lived in the Rome area for the last 25 years, with his wife Eleanor.

His career in government spans several years and positions. For example, in the 80s he was a social welfare examiner and then Chief of Staff for Co. Exec. Ray Meier. He also worked in Gov. Pataki's administration. He has been our County Executive for five years now and said he enjoys it.

But the job is not without challenges, the budget being the biggest at the moment. His 2012 proposed budget is \$360M and covers mandated and non-mandated expenses. There are 9 mandated expenses, such as Medicaid and public assistance, which make up 90% of the County budget. Non-mandated, or discretionary expenses, include services such as law enforcement, public health and service to aged and veterans, libraries, handicapped transportation, and DMV offices, all of which are essential. Unfortunately this is the area where cuts have to be considered.

At the last session of the State legislature, a law was passed that property tax increases cannot exceed 2%. Property taxes are only a small portion of the income stream for Oneida County, being \$62M for 2011. 2% of that means it can only be increased by \$1.2M for 2012. Medicaid for 2011 is \$55M, over \$1M per week, and 85% of the property tax income. With a growth of 3%, it will go up \$1.6M, or over \$400,000 more than can be raised via property tax increase. Other normal County costs such as fuel, utilities, and health insurance will also increase, just as they do for our home expenses. Other income sources for Oneida County are approximately \$82M from sales tax in 2012 and the rest is federal and state reimbursable fees.

The understanding was when the State law was passed that the next step for the legislature would be to address reducing mandated expenses. To date, that has not happened. Consequently Mr. Picente's budget has a 6 month budget for some non-mandated expenses, with the hope that the State will address the mandated expenses during this timeframe, and the County will gain some relief in this area, allowing non-mandated expenses to be re-addressed. The State legislature has to do their part next! Tony complimented Gov. Coumo stating that so far he has been a man of his word, and is optimistic for the next 12 months.

He fielded several questions. One person's opinion was that an income tax is more equitable than property tax. Tony seemed to agree, stating that with Oneida Co. being largely an agricultural county, some landowners are hit with large tax bills, although their income may not correspond. He also discussed the Nano technology initiative and is optimistic that the user site currently being developed in Marcy will be filled during the next 12 months.



Anthony Picente

NEXT WEEKS MEETINGS:

Tuesday, October 18th, 2011 – The Franklin @ 12:00

After Work Meeting: 5:30 pm, every Thursday, MVCC Library Conference Room, Floyd Ave.
If you miss Tuesday's meeting, take advantage of this "make up" opportunity!

ATTENDANCE:

Bahr, Bowers, Butters, DeMatteo, DiPerna, Fusco, Glasso, Graves, Gray, J. Kahler, R. Kahler, Kryczkowski, Kobernuss, Latimer, Midlam, Mooney, Normand, Packer, Pendergrast, Roth, Roubian, Tracy, W. Tuthill, Weed, Winberg.

MAKE-UPS (includes after work meeting):

Packer, Mooney, Winberg, Gray, Neiley's and Glasso

GUESTS AND VISITING ROTARIANS:

Karla Capetillo, club exchange student, Tobra Vescio guest of Louise Glasso, Lisa Matte guest of David Nolan and Jake Mihevc guest of Kristen Bowers

50/50:

Keith Butters won the 50-50 raffle and took the \$6 cash. The pot remains \$87.

AFTER-WORK MEETING (October 13th, 2011):

N. Neiley, Ramos, and Tuthill's

MEET OUR NEWEST ROTARIAN: Debbie Kryczkowski



Debbie started out with M & T 14 years ago as a teller and she was branch manager of the Camden branch before being promoted to the Rome office at Mohawk Acres. Debbie is a licensed M & T Securities representative with a Series 6 & 63 and M & T Insurance Rep. She is a 29 year member of the American Legion Auxiliary, and a member of Rome Chamber of Commerce. She has one son, Tech Sgt. Robert P Kryczkowski Jr, EADS, and 10 year old triple grandsons. Welcome to Rome Rotary Debbie!!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:



Kay DeSimone, Joel Gray, Sandi Latimer, Greg Matticola, Carol Mooney, Craig Summers, and Shirley Waters.

OCTOBER ROME ROTARY MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSAIRES:

Happy Anniversary to.....

Maria Ramos (2001)

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"Life is not about waiting for the storms to pass...it's about learning how to dance in the rain!" - Vivian Greene

UPCOMING EVENTS:

<i>Date / Time</i>	<i>What</i>	<i>More Information</i>
Tuesday, October 18 th @ 12pm to 1pm	Jeannie Packer	@ The Franklin. Rome Rotary Readers program.
Tuesday, October 25 th @ 12pm to 1 pm	Greg Kovacs	@ The Franklin. Samaritan Counseling Ctr. Of the Mohawk Valley
Saturday, October 29 th @ 8:30am to 8:30pm	International Student Day	See Facebook for Details
November		
Tuesday, November 1st @ 12 pm to 1 pm	Joe Boardman, Pres/CEO Amtrak	@ The Franklin.
Tuesday, November 8 th @ 12 pm to 1 pm	Matt Episcopo	@ The Franklin. Matt Episcopo Enterprises – Compelling Communication. Former Captain of Madison County Sheriff Dept. now business owner.
Tuesday, November 15 th @ 12 pm to 1 pm	Dr. Raffai	@ The Franklin. Orthopedic and Sports Med
Tuesday, November 29 th @ 12 pm to 1pm	Jennifer Leitgeb – Director of Development	@ The Franklin. Ronald McDonald House Charities
December		
Tuesday, December 6 th @ 7 pm	Rome Memorial Hospital Senior's Christmas Party	@ Rome Memorial Hospital
Tuesday, December 13 th @ 12 pm – 1 pm	Stanwix Veterans & Men's Club	Spaghetti Dinner will be served for Rotary Members – usual \$10
Tuesday, December 27 th @ 12 pm – 1 pm	Round Table Lunch	

ROTARY INFORMATION:

Rome Rotary, PO Box 655, Rome, NY 13442-0655

Rotary Website: www.RomeRotaryNY.org

Newsletter Email Address: RomeRotaryNewsletter@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/RomeRotary



ROME ROTARY ROCKS!!