



# **WEDNESDAY WRAP-UP**

## **Of the Geneva, New York Rotary Club**

[www.GenevaRotaryClub.org](http://www.GenevaRotaryClub.org)

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Miss a meeting? Make it up at  
[www.RotaryEClubOne.org](http://www.RotaryEClubOne.org)

**Wednesday,  
November  
15, 2017**

Next week:

Round Table

President Tara led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Reverend Jim Adams gave the invocation: a 900 year old prayer that some recognized as the prayer to St. Francis, currently sung in many churches.

**Visiting Rotarian:** Rick Hawkes from Canandaigua, speaking as a member of the board of Ability Partners Foundation as well as a fellow Rotarian

**Guests:** Jason Hagerman, guest of Danielle DuVal; Mary Walsh Boatfield, Cheryl Coppola, and Elsa Steo from Ability Partners

### **Announcements**

- A reminder to our club members that lunches are always \$13.00 per person, no matter how much or what you eat. This includes soup too. We agree that the hospitality of Geneva Country Club and the quality of the food they prepare for us at this very reasonable price should be respected by all who attend our meetings.
- The monthly social is at Cosentino's is this Friday, November 17, at 5:30. Stay for dinner if you can. *(This can also count as a make-up meeting.)*
- Next week's meeting will be Round-Table style. Therefore, no special program will take place on November 22.
- Mark Miller is looking for someone to step up and into the scholarship committee to review applications and schedule payments. Contact Mark or Tara if you can be that Rotarian.
- Mark your calendars for December 13! Our club is hosting the Geneva Chamber Business After Hours at Club 86. This is a well-attended event and annually marks part of the Geneva holiday celebrations. 5-7PM - Be there!!!
- The Geneva Rotary Santa Train is Saturday, December 2. Tickets are selling quickly! The first and last trains are now sold out. Sign up to volunteer that day if you are able. See Dave Cook or Lisa Toole for more info. Buy tickets via Smith Center for the Arts.
- December 6<sup>th</sup> marks our start of weekly Rotary meetings with lunch at Club 86, since the GCC will scale down activities for the winter months.
- Rotarian Jim Dickson thanked the 11 Rotarians and 7 Interact members who took part in the Route 14 clean-up last Saturday.

- Mark your 2019!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! calendars for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our club on April 27! Plan ahead!
- Sign up to ring the bell on December 23<sup>rd</sup> for the Geneva Rotary Day to help the Salvation Army. See Jim DeVaney for any info.
- Geneva General Hospital Auxiliary is sponsoring some sales events to raise funds for their group. Most are held outside the cafeteria at GGH although Alex and Ani (Victor) recently sponsored one to benefit the Auxiliary. The next event is a bake sale and raffle on Friday, December 8 at 9AM until sold out, GGH cafeteria. Contact Joyce Archer for more info.

### Happy/Sad Dollars and Fines

- Dave Cook: seeing Bill Buell in street clothes, doing so well post-hip surgery
- Ellen Wayne: for Shad's help in last minute chairing a meeting for her. (*PS Who else knows that Ellen will be married on November 25<sup>th</sup>?*)
- Shad Cook: fined for his photo in Grapevine
- Karen Luttrell will be traveling to Colorado soon to see her grandchildren.
- Charlie Bartishevich enjoyed a week in Puglia, Italy with lots of great wine and food but his kids were unfazed by his absence. Guess what, Charlie: they are growing up!
- Gerry Forcier saluted Jim Dickson for again organizing the highway clean-up.
- Dick Austin fined himself for missing the clean-up Saturday due to flight delays which resulted in his arrival home sometime well-past midnight.
- Jim Krajna will winter in Florida. Who wouldn't be happy???? Surely he will attend Rotary meetings there this winter.
- Stephanie Hesler saluted her husband who was recently honored as employee of the year at the NYS Experiment Station as well as offering cudos to the Master Minds team from GHS.
- Jim DeVaney is sad that his Fighting Irish lost to Miami.
- Chris FitzGerald is happy that her daughter will be home for Thanksgiving.

50/50 Won by Jerry Forcier, splitting \$92/46.00 with Polio Plus

Turkey Dinner Raffle: Tom Marino's name was drawn as the winner. Charlie Bartishevich "threw" in a choice of farm to table local squash which could double as a lethal weapon.

### Program

Shad introduced **Rick Hawkes**, foundation board member of **Ability Partners Inc.** (and Canandaigua Rotarian) who in turn introduced the guests noted above to present a brief history of this organization and to inform us of the future developments. Since there were technical difficulties with the video presentation, Mary Boatfield stepped forward to give the presentation. Mary has been President of Happiness House for 16 years. HH was started in 1969 by parents of children with Cerebral Palsy. The most recent development is the Golisano Autism Center in Rochester which will expand and enhance autism services to serve the more than 10,000 people diagnosed with autism within the Greater Rochester and surrounding areas. In Ontario, Yates, Wayne and Seneca counties alone, more than 1000 adults and children are served by this agency. Mary's job description has grown exponentially since 2013 when she became CEO of CP Rochester and again in 2015 when she added Rochester Rehabilitation Services to her duties. In 2015, all three organizations came together to form Ability Partners Inc. They remain separate organizations but use mirrored boards to conduct business.

**Submitted by Carol Chester**

**Report from James Williams, our Rotary Exchange Student in Slovakia:**

Wow already into my 3<sup>rd</sup> Month here in Slovakia, time really flies when you're having fun! I haven't gone to any castles since the last update but we have had some pretty cold weather here with it being close to 30-40 degrees F for the last month, which I have been told is abnormal. Anyways I have found many ways to have fun... inside and out.

I'll start with the things that I am doing regularly. Every week I play hockey with the local youth club in Piešťany. I'm really enjoying playing 3-4 times a week. The boys and girls on the team are all really great and I was able to attend a game and be on the bench. I worked the door and quickly learned what "open the door" is in Slovak :P. I also received a package from my USA Mama and I was very excited to see all the goodies she sent me along with some hockey gear I had requested. I also bought a new hockey stick because I really don't like the one I have been using. Also I am attending school regularly, I go every Monday-Friday as long as I don't have to do anything else. School is pretty hard for me. It's not hard in the content of the courses, I actually think that if I understood I would do very well, it's but more that I don't understand pretty much everything the teachers are saying because they talk too fast for me as of now. In a month or two I think that I will understand more and it will be easier. Mathematics class I enjoy because I can understand what the teacher writes on the board and so I have been able to take those tests and do well on them, but she talks the fastest of all my teachers haha. I really like my classmates they have all been awesome and I like to talk about things with them and try every day to speak Slovak and have them understand but always my Slovak is not quite right. I learn more and more every day in Slovak my host parents help me a lot but I think I learn a lot most in school when I have my Slovak-English dictionary and I look through for words and try to remember them all and write down words I think might be important. Also I go to church almost every Sunday and I don't understand much of what the pastor says but I like to take this time to reflect on some of the things that I have done here and it always makes me happy and thankful for this awesome experience.

So next I have some specific experiences which I would like to mention from this month. I'll go in chronological order for these. So before I knew there was a girl who went to my District from Slovakia two years before... Turns out she is from and lives in Piešťany and so I got into contact with her and all the current exchange

students and 3 past exchange students got together for some coffee and it was really nice to meet them and talk about their exchange and ours and Slovakia. Another thing I did was go to a



James with the three other Rotary exchange students in Piešťany. From left to right Kris (Taiwan), James, Sofie (Mexico) and Isadora (Brazil)

hockey game in the local Arena. But I brought Sofia and Isadora to their first ice hockey game! They are from Mexico and Brazil respectively and I was excited to see their reactions and how even they thought hockey was only about fights LOL. Also I went to a Southern American/Mexican concert in a town nearby with the 3 other exchange students and that was incredible. There was a Brazilian man who Isadora was able to talk to and a guy from South America that Sofie could talk with. There was lots of dancing and it was cool to see the traditional Brazilian dances, makes me want to go to Carnival... but not this year. Another new experience this month was helping my host grandfather with farming his field. It was already tilled and we helped plant the seeds, clear some debris, and flatten the soil. It was cool to learn the method and it is not so hard when there is a tractor doing the heavy work.

Finally I was able to go to Zdiar in the Vsyoky Tatry, High Tatry Mountains, and that was awesome. I really enjoyed the 4 days there and being with another family, which is very close to my family. They were from Eastern Slovakia and its really funny how different they speak even though its only a 5 hour drive away. I didn't hear a huge difference in how they spoke but I was able to hear their accent in a few words. I was proud of myself for this :D. We had a ton of snow there in Ždiar and it was fun to go on walks through it and build snowmen and have snowball fights with my host brother. OHH Also on our way to Ždiar I was able to see Soňa!!! Žilina is on the way to Ždiar and I was so happy to see her and see that she is well, it was a quick meeting but totally worth it. I'm hoping she can come to Piešťany soon or I can go to Zilina. Either would be awesome. Then we returned back to Piešťany and that's the end of October for me!

Also I would like to talk about my host family really quickly. My host father is Rast'o and he works 2 days on and 2 days off. He is a manager for a headquarters at a company in a different town. He is a handyman and an outdoorsman. He loves to go for mountain bike rides and together we have gone and its awesome when we go! In my family he is the only one who can speak English. He doesn't know everything but his English is better than my Slovak! My host mother is Monika we speak in Slovak together. She is awesome, she is just like any mother and seems to know everything about me before I know it :P. I have my host brother Simon who is 12 and goes to school and works really hard to do well every day and plays water polo. I'm helping him with his English and he is getting better! Finally there's Goro the dog and he is always excited for everything and loves walks and when he gets excited he runs in a small circle and wags his tail. My first host family is wonderful I am treated just like I am their own child, even if I do something bad, and I don't think I could have asked for a better family. I'm already two months into my time here and somehow I feel like time is still flying by but also going a tortoise speeds. I really really am enjoying my time here in Slovakia and every day I learn more about myself and the people around me.

The culture here is really hard to describe because its very similar to my own with a few small differences that are hard to explain without showing pictures or anything. I can say that in school teachers have a lot of respect and it its very very bad to the teacher, for example if you don't stand up when they walk in/out they will glare at you very strongly and maybe yell at you if you don't quickly, I haven't gone that far and I hope to not. Also the people are more reserved at first. It takes a few meetings for people to open up more. Once they do they are very kind and really appreciate a lot of what they have because many people still remember when they didn't have enough under the USSR. Sometimes I talk about this with my host father and I really have

learned from him a lot about what happened during that time and how it really helps me appreciate what I have and how much I do have. Anyways I've said my piece for now and I hope you enjoyed :--) Dobry Deň,

Good day!  
James Williams

<b>Four way test:</b> <b>"Of the things we think, say or do:"</b>				
<b><i>1. Is it The Truth?</i></b>				
<b><i>2. Is it Fair to All Concerned?</i></b>				
<b><i>3. Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendships?</i></b>				
<b><i>4. Will it be beneficial for All Concerned?</i></b>				
<b>Tara Rago</b> President	<b>Shad Cook</b> President-Elect	<b>Mary Lawthers</b> Vice President	<b>Ford Weiskittel</b> Secretary	<b>Harley Roberson</b> Treasurer