



WEDNESDAY WRAP-UP

Of the Geneva, New York Rotary Club

www.GenevaRotaryClub.org

Miss a meeting? Make it up at
www.RotaryEClubOne.org

**Wednesday,
Oct. 21, 2020**

Next week:
Jason Haag

President Dave Cook led us in the Pledge and gave the invocation from the “Book of Pat Kraus”

Guests

Lisa Sculli, guest of Palma Fratto-Evans

Mike Pinco, guest of Ray Ciancaglini (in absentia) and prospective member

We had a few members tune in on Zoom.

50/50

Shad Cook split \$40/\$40 with Polio Plus.

Announcements

- Susie Flick – Asked for help fixing the door to the Little Library at the lakefront
- Jim Dickson – Thanked everyone who helped with the lakefront clean up on Saturday (there were nine Interactors, three HWS students, two students from Waterloo, and 11 Rotarians). Roadside clean-up along Route 14 will be held on November 7
- Dave Cook – There will be a Santa Train meeting after lunch

Fines and Happy Dollars

- Ted Baker – Both Geneva girls’ and boys’ soccer teams won their games
- Ruth Leo – Fined herself for forgetting the board meeting
- Scooter Avedisian – Glad to be back
- Ken Steadman – Thanked the Boys and Girls Club for cleaning out his house

Induction

Mike Sculli (sponsor Dave Cook) was inducted as our newest Rotary member. Born and raised in Geneva, Mike married his high school sweetheart, Liz, and they have three children. During his varied career he has worked at the Army Depot, Kodak and Red Jacket School District.

The Club welcomed Mike as a new member

Program

Jerry Forcier introduced our presenter, **Seneca County Historian Walt Gable**. His program was "Haunted Tales, Hoaxes, and Strange but True Stories of the Finger Lakes." Walt also distributed a "Did It Really Happen?" quiz.

Ghosts at Belhurst

- In the process of building Belhurst, one worker fell off the tower and another went insane
- Baby crying and woman singing lullabies in the Billiard Room
- Male apparition in the bathroom
- The White Lady – An opera singer fled with her lover from Spain to Geneva. When her husband tracked them down to Belhurst, the couple fled to the wine cellar and tunnel but the tunnel collapsed just as they entered it. The White Lady has been seen walking along the lake shore and front lawn

Edward H. Ruloff (doctor, lawyer, inventor, philologist, career criminal and serial killer)

- Between 1841 and 1871 he spent time in and out of jail for embezzlement, kidnapping, burglary and murder. While serving time in Auburn Prison he taught himself philology and began formulating his own theory about language evolution.
- August 1870 during a burglary in Binghamton with two other men Ruloff killed a man. The trio tried to escape across the Chenango River but only Ruloff survived. He was eventually caught and put on trial. His trial got worldwide publicity and word spread about his theory on language evolution. The public began to question if Ruloff is too intelligent hang or waste away in jail (Mark Twain even suggested that someone should take his place). Scholars were asked to come to Ruloff's rescue but no one did.
- On May 18, 1871 Ruloff was hanged (the last public hanging in New York State). His head was separated from his body so his brain and skull could be studied. His brain ended up at Cornell (where it remains) and it's the second largest brain on record.

Ghosts at the Seneca Falls Mansion

- Edward Mynderse (original owner of the house)

- Mary Merrigan - a nanny of the Becker family who was eventually committed to Willard
- A young girl crying (a homesick, Irish maid)

Other Stories

- Sightings of a lady in white at the scene of 1919 fire in Aurora
- Apparitions in the State Street Theatre in Ithaca
- Sea Serpent of Seneca Lake
- Mysterious booms on Seneca and Cayuga Lakes

Submitted by Kerry Lippincott

Four way test:

“Of the things we think, say or do:”

1. Is it The Truth?

2. Is it Fair to All Concerned?

3. Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendships?

4. Will it be beneficial for All Concerned?

Dave Cook	Stephanie Hesler	Jerry Forcier	Ford Weiskittel	Bob McFadden	Mike Rusinko
President	President-Elect	Vice President	Secretary	Club Treasurer	Foundation Treasurer