



Rota-Briefs



Rotary Club of Cohoes - A Subsidiary of Rotary International

March 1, 2009

Invocation: Bev Signoracci
Song: Chuck Ries - Aura Lee

Anniversaries: none

Birthdays: none

Visiting Rotarians: Byron Moak, Paul Perreault

Guests: none

Big Bucks

Mystery Raffle: Marshall Barrett

Powerball: Marshall Barrett tried for the prize but was not successful.

Rotarians Present: Barrett, Brooks, Cooley, Demers, Farrell, Hornbrook, McDonald, Ries, Signoracci, E. Tremblay, L. Tremblay, and R. W. Van Alstine

Good News/Bad News: The following members paid happy/ sad dollars:

Bev Signoracci because she is enjoying her retirement; Byron Moak because he always enjoys coming to our club, Paul Perreault will be speaking to us, and for the Lansingburgh Boys Club and Rotary Luncheon (see Events/Information) and Michigan State is in the Final Four; Mike Brooks because Zack Hill and Reily Mabee from Cohoes won boxing matches; Harry McDonald because A. B. Lansing (Lansing Park is named after him) used to ride his bicycle to and from school; Colin Demers to keep his daughter from going to down town London and for a new grandniece.

Events/ Information:

- District 7190 [Toolbox](#) for December/January.
- The [Annual Lansingburgh Boys Club and Rotary Luncheon](#) will be held on April 6, 2009.

- A [District Assembly](#) will be held on April 18th, 2009 at the Hudson Falls High School
- The District [Tropical Dream Conference](#) will be held May 1-2, 2009.
- Schwan's Home Fundraising Sale for the Rotary Foundation, April 18, 2009 at the Hudson Falls High School from 9:30 Am to 1:30 PM.

Rotary Basics: The 4- Way Test:

The 4-Way test is one of four principles that guild Rotarians in achieving ideals of service and high ethical standards. It was created by Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor in 1932. It was adopted by Rotary in 1943.

1. Is it the truth?
2. It is fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

See [Rotary's Guiding Principles](#).

Also see [The Four-Way Test Means Business](#) for an example of how is still being used in the business world.

Club Business:

Colin made the following announcements:

- Sawbuck Raffle tickets are due.
- District Assembly, Tropical Dream Conference and the Schwan's Home Fundraising Sale for the Rotary Foundation – see Events/ Information above.
- See Linda Tremblay to purchase tickets for the Annual Spaghetti Dinner.

Program:

Paul Perreault, Historian for the Town of Malta, spoke to our club about [Grant Cottage](#). See attached.

A Little Bit of History:

Byron Moak explained that [Aura Lee](#), the song we sang today was written in Lansingburgh, NY. The melody was later used in Elvis Presley's hit single [Love Me Tender](#).

Rotary Club Officers

Colin Demers - President

Marshall Barrett - Vice President/Program Chair

Robert W. Van Alstine - Secretary/
Editor Club Newsletter

Michael Brooks - Treasurer

Beverly Signoracci - Sergeant At Arms

Mike Popolizio - District Governor

Cohoes Rotary Web Site - www.rotaryclubofcohoes.org

Next Week's Program:

Elise Collins, Dana Farber Cancer Research Hospital- Stem cell and bone marrow drives. Elise coordinated the Bone Marrow / Stem Cell Drive for Diane Kultzow that we mentioned in our February 4 & 11, 2009 club newsletter.



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Attachment to April 1, 2009 Newsletter

Grant Cottage

Paul Perreault, Historian for the Town of Malta spoke to our club about Grant Cottage. He began explaining that he is a native of Cohoes and President-Elect for the Ballston Spa Rotary Club.

Ulysses S. Grant - The Necessity to Write His Memoirs:

Paul explained that he admires Ulysses S. Grant greatly. Most people think of him as a celebrated Civil War general, or a failed President of the United States. He was the first to practice Post-Napoleonic era military tactics.

He spent his last days writing his memoirs as a means of providing for his family. His son talked Grant into investing all of his money in a firm in which the son was a partner. The other partner ran out, taking all of the money with him. Grant had no other source of income. In those days former Presidents received no pension, and he had given up his right to receive a military salary when he became President.

Next to Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant was the most admired public figure of his generation. After he died, his funeral procession went to Albany, and then to New York City (NYC). It has been said that it took 5 hours for the funeral procession in NYC to pass a single point. It included multitudes of citizens, and former union and confederate soldiers.

Memoirs:

Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain) was instrumental in convincing Grant to write his memoirs, and edited the final product before it was published. The first chapter of his memoirs provides a glimpse as to what kind of man Ulysses S. Grant was. It demonstrates that he was a warm and human man, as well as a great writer. His writing style was succinct, simple and to the point. Paul explained that these tendencies were probably as a result his extensive experience in writing military orders.

Ulysses S. Grant completed his memoirs just two days before he died. Entitled *Personal Memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant*, this two volume set was the most popular selling book in the late 19th century. His family received \$400,000 in royalties from its publication. Former civil war soldiers went house to house taking subscriptions for the book.



**Ulysses S. Grant
Writing his Memoirs in 1885**

History of Grant Cottage:

In 1878 Duncan McGregor built a four bedroom cottage on top of a mountain he had purchased in 1872. In 1881 the mountain was sold to a business group which was backed by Joseph W. Drexel. Mr. Drexel constructed the Hotel Balmoral, which became a landmark in the Saratoga area. It was Drexel who offered the cottage as a place for Grant to get away from the heat and congestion of NYC. Grant accepted this offer.

On July 16, 1885 Ulysses S. Grant arrived at Grant Cottage with his wife Julia, his grandchildren, a valet and his physician. During the time Grant spent at the cottage, he did not have many visitors; however he did have a few. One of them was Charles Wood. He offered to loan Grant \$1,500 because, as Wood stated "I owe you this for Appomattox!" Wood owned a brush factory in Lansingburgh, NY.

When Grant died, the Saratoga Chapter of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) posted a guard at Grant Cottage. The cottage had been given to the GAR, and was left as it was when Grant died there on July 23, 1885.

In December 1897, the Hotel Balmoral was destroyed by fire. By 1910, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company had built a TB sanitarium where the hotel had been. In 1945, the sanitarium was sold to the State of New York. In 1975, a prison was built there.

In 1984, the Friends of the Ulysses S. Grant Cottage was formed and given responsibility for maintaining Grant Cottage. However, it is owned by the State of New York. Prisoners from Camp McGregor help to maintain it. They paint and do other cleanup chores.

Grant Cottage is open to visitors from Wednesday to Sunday from Memorial Day to Labor Day; and then only on the week ends till Columbus Day. Special programs include: Grant Remembrance Day, and a Victorian Tea. They receive about 2,500 visitors per year. People who visit there also have the enjoyment of a spectacular view from the east side of the mountain.

When and Where Other Rotary Clubs Meet:

Monday	
Corinth	7:15PM
Agape Bed and Breakfast, Rt. 9N, Corinth	
Hudson Falls	12:10 PM
Pizza Hut. Rt.4, Fort Edward	
Racing City Rotary	5:30 PM
Olde Gaslight Restaurant, 12 Ballston Avenue, Saratoga Springs	
Burnt Hills/Ballston Lake	6:15 PM
Bill Sewell Community Room, Town of Ballston Town Hall	
Lake George	6:15 PM
Holiday Inn Rt. 2223 State Rt. 9	
Tuesday	
Northern Lake George	7:30 AM
Watson Arts Center, Silver Bay	
Wilton	7:30 AM
Friendly's Restaurant, Route 50, Wilton	
Latham	12:00 PM
Century House, Latham	
Watervliet	12:10 PM
First Presbyterian Church, 819 23 rd Street, Watervliet Meets 2 nd and 4 th weeks only)	
Ballston Spa	12:15 PM
Manna's Restaurant, 17 Low St, Ballston Spa	
Glove Cities	12:15 PM
Holiday Inn, Rt. 30A, Johnstown	
Menands	12:15 PM
The Corner Well Restaurant, 698 North Pearl St.	
Scotia	6:00 PM
Turf Tavern, 40 Mohawk Avenue, Scotia	
South Glens Falls	5:45 PM
Humbuggs, Corner Bluebird Rd. and Rt. 32, South Glens Falls	
Chestertown	6:15 PM
O.P. Frederick's Restaurant, Rt. 8., Chestertown	
Lansingburgh	6:15 PM
Paradise Lounge, 630 2 nd and 117 th Streets, Troy	
Northville	6:30 PM
(Call for locations and directions)	
Schoharie	6:30 PM
Parrot House - Rt. 30 Main St. Schoharie	

Wednesday	
Niskayuna	7:15 AM
Route 7 Diner, 1090 Troy-Schenectady Road	
Delmar	7:30 AM
Normanside Country Club, 150 Salisbury Rd., Delmar	
Mohawk Valley	7:30 AM
Senior Center, 204 Canal St., Fort Plain	
Schenectady East	7:30 AM
Old Country Buffet, Crosstown Plaza, Rt. 7, Schenectady	
Turning Point	7:30 AM
General Schuyler Pantry 166 Broad St., Schuylerville	
Champlain Canal	8:00 PM
Community Room, Mid-Rise Senior Apts, 180 N. Main Street Mechanicville	
Albany	12:15 PM
Wolferts Roost Country Club, 1230 Van Rensselaer Blvd., Albany	
Amsterdam	12:15 PM
Raindancer Steak Parlor, Rt. 30N, Amstgerdam	
Cohoes	12:15 PM
Century House, Rt. 9, Latham	
Colonie-Guilderland	12:15 PM
Western Turnpike Golf Course Rt. 20, Guilderland	
Saratoga Springs	12:15 PM
Longfellows Restaurant, Rt. 9P	
Cobleskill	6:10 PM
Best Western Inn of Cobleskill Rt. 7, Main Street, Cobleskill.	
Granville	6:15 PM
AJ's Restaruent, Quaker Street, Granville	

Thursday	
Malta Sunrise	7:15 AM
Malta Diner Rts. 9 & 67, Malta (Exit 12 off I87)	
Rotterdam Sunrise	7:15 AM
McLanes Restaurant, 2717 Broadway, Rotterdam	
Shenendehowa	7:15 AM
Coburg Village Retirement Facility, Grooms Rd., Clifton Park	
North Creek	7:30 AM
Marsha's Restaurant, Main St., North Creek	
Schenectady	12:00 PM
Stockade Inn, 1 North Church St., Schenectady	
Twin Bridges	12:00 PM
Salty's, Northway Exit 8A, East of Rt. 9, Halfmoon	
Glens Falls	12:10 PM
Queensbury Hotel, 88 Ridge Street, glens Falls	
Troy	12:15 PM
The Red Front Restaurant, 71 Division Street, Troy	
Middleburgh	6:05 PM
Middleburgh United Methodist Church, Rt. 145 Middleburgh Main St. & Bush Rd.)	
Salem	6:15 PM
Bunker Hill B&B on Bunker Hill Rd. Salem (5.5 mi. NW of Salem)	
Southern Rensselaer	6:15 PM
Holiday Inn Express, US 4 East Greenbush (Exit 9 off I 90)	
Broadalbin	6:30 PM
The White Holland House, 1520 Ste Highway 29, Gloversville	
Fort Ann	6:30 PM
Mountain View Java, Rt 4, Fort Ann	
Sharon Springs	6:30 PM
Pit Stop BBQ, Rts. 10 & 20, Sharon Springs	
Friday	
Glenville	7:15 AM
Turf Tavern, Rt. 50, Scotia	

Rotary Club of Cohoes
PO Box 81
Cohoes, NY 12047