



Meeting of January 26, 2009

President Richard opened the meeting with Holly Wallace at the piano again leading us in our National Anthem. Jim Robb led us in the invocation.

Visitors and Guests

Bill Grossman introduced our Visiting Rotarians and guests:

- First we recognized our Honorary Member Natalie Kalette who was back with us for the first time after PDG Hank's death
- Nathan Boguhn, Rome Rotary and a Prospective Member
- Bob Retchless, formerly a Rotarian in NH and a Prospective Member
- Prospective Members Mike Rigney, Brian Carr and Douglas Burns
- Holly Wallaces' husband Mike
- Mark Strodel's wife Sarah Parsons

- John Johansen's guest Mary Ann Stark
- Richard Jenkins' guest John Patalita

Announcements

- We presented Dan Maffei with a new badge as Member of Congress; a copy of the Four Way Test for his office, a Mel Rubenstein picture from Pancake Day and a club banner. Dan said he expects to be in Syracuse most Mondays and expects to make a lot of meetings.
- You have received a ballot for Club President. Please return it ASAP.
- We have pledged ourselves to support Fred Cholet in his year as DG. Sue Reisman and John Arnold are heading a committee to do that. Please let them know how you can help.
- Judy Williams son and his wife had a baby girl on Sunday 1/25/09 — Eva Lanea, Judy's first grandchild.

Tom Pendergast won the 50/50 again...

Program —

Holly Wallace introduced our speaker, Congressman Dan Maffei. Dan worked for Senator Moynihan and Senator Bradley for many years and served as staff to the Ways and Means Committee. He graduated from Nottingham HS, Brown University, and has a Masters degree in Journalism from Columbia and from Harvard in Government.

Dan said he wanted to speak about three things under the heading "How I See This Job."

- He represents us in Congress. We have a bicameral legislature. The Senate represents the states and the House members represent us—their constituents.

You Could Have Heard A Pin Drop

There was a conference in France where a number of international engineers were taking part, including French and American. During a break, one of the French engineers came back into the room saying 'Have you heard the latest dumb stunt Bush has done? He has sent an aircraft carrier to Indonesia to help the tsunami victims. What does he intended to do, bomb them?' A Boeing engineer stood up and replied quietly: 'Our carriers have three hospitals on board that can treat several hundred people; they are nuclear powered and can

supply emergency electrical power to shore facilities; they have three cafeterias with the capacity to feed 3,000 people three meals a day, they can produce several thousand gallons of fresh water from sea water each day, and they carry half a dozen helicopters for use in transporting victims and injured to and from their flight deck. We have eleven such ships; how many does France have?' You could have heard a pin drop.



*The ABCs of Rotary,
Cliff Dochterman,
RI Pres, 1992-93*

STANDARD CLUB CONSTITUTION

Rotary International is the most territorial organization in the world. It exists in 184 different countries and territories and cuts across dozens of languages, political and social structures, customs, religions and traditions. How is it that all of the more than 25,500 Rotary clubs of the world operate in almost identical style? The primary answer is the Standard Rotary Club Constitution.

One of the conditions to receive a charter to become a Rotary club is to accept the Standard Club Constitution, originally adopted in 1922. The Standard Club Constitution outlines administrative techniques for clubs to follow in holding weekly meetings, procedures for and classifications, conditions of attendance and payment of dues and other policies relating to public issues and political positions.

This constitutional document provides the framework for all Rotary clubs in the world. When the Standard Club Constitution was accepted, it was agreed that

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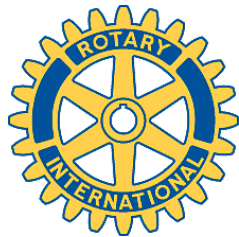
- He is an advocate for the citizens of this district. If you have a problem, they will help you find out where to go to fix it. If it is a problem with the Federal Government, they will directly assist you.
- He is an ambassador promoting this area everywhere he goes. E.g., at a Senate party for Hillary Clinton, Dan suggested she and Bill vacation in Skaneateles again. It shows off our area well.

Dan has practically completed his staff and has 8 people in Syracuse and 6 in Washington. He usually has to be in Washington by Monday at 6:30 and returns to Syracuse late Thursday. Always contact him at his Syracuse office: 100 S Clinton St. (315) 423-5657 or at <http://maffei.house.gov>.

Samaritan Center Lunches —

Michelle Burnett has announced our dates for serving meals at the Samaritan Center next year. Please put them in your calendars and plan to be there to help.

- March 21; April 18 and May 2
- Respectfully submitted,
Bill Grossman, Editor



Upcoming Programs

- Feb 2 – Club Assembly
- Feb 9 – Holly Wallace - Pancake Day Kickoff Meeting
- Feb 16—to be announced

From the Club, the District and Rotary International

- Feb 21—6—8 pm Membership Seminar Workshop at Blue Train Utica. Everyone is invited
- March 13th - 14th, 2009 – Multi-District PETS
- April 4th, 2009 – Rotary Leadership Institute

Overheard ...

An Irish daughter had not been home for over 5 years. Upon her return, her Father cussed her. 'Where have ye been all this time? Why did ye not write to us, not even a line? Why didn't ye call? Can ye not understand what ye put yer old Mother thru?' The girl, crying, replied, 'Sniff, sniff....Dad....I became a prostitute...' 'Ye what!!? Out of here, ye shameless harlot! Sinner! You're a disgrace to this Catholic family.' 'OK, Dad — as ye wish. I just came back to give mum this luxurious fur coat, title deed to a ten bedroom mansion plus a \$5 million savings certificate. For me little brother, this gold Rolex. And for ye Daddy, the sparkling new Mercedes limited edition convertible & It; BR that's parked outside plus a membership to the country club ... (takes a breath) ... and an invitation for ye all to spend New Years Eve on board my new yacht in the Riviera and... ..' 'Now what was it ye said ye had become?' says Dad. Girl, crying again, 'Sniff, sniff....a

prostitute Daddy! Sniff, sniff.' 'Oh! Be Jesus! Ye scared me half to death, girl! I thought ye said a Protestant. Come here and give yer old Dad a hug. [from Tom Williams, via Dick Waterman]

An elderly gent was invited to an old friend's home for dinner one evening. He was impressed by the way his buddy preceded every request to his wife with endearing terms such as: Honey, My Love, Darling, Sweetheart, Pumpkin, etc. The couple had been married almost 70 years and, clearly, they were still very much in love. While the wife was in the kitchen, the man leaned over to his host, 'I think it's wonderful that after all these years, you still call your wife those loving pet names'. The old man hung his head. 'I have to tell you the truth,' he said, 'Her name slipped my mind about 10 years ago and I'm scared to death to ask her what it is. [from Judith A, Doc's Daily Chuckle]

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all existing clubs could continue to follow their current constitution. Although most of those early clubs have subsequently endorsed the Standard Constitution, a few pre-1922 clubs still conduct their club affairs according to their former constitutional provisions.

The Standard Club Consti-

tution has to be considered one of the great strengths of Rotary to enable the organization to operate in so many thousands of communities.

Life

- Life is a gift to be used every day
- Not to be smothered and hidden away;
- It isn't a joy to be sipped now and then
- And promptly put back in a dark place again.
- Life is a gift that the humblest may boast of.
- And one that the humblest may well make the most of.
- Get out and live it each hour of the day,
- Wear it and use it as much as you may;
- Don't keep it in niches and corners and grooves,
- You'll find that in service its beauty improves.
- — Author unknown, Contributed by Eunice Lanktree, The United Church of Espnola