

President: Barry Nicholson
President-Elect: Michele Donegan
Vice-President Succession: Andy Taylor
Vice-President Membership: Ted Goldwyn
Secretary: Scott Bloor
Treasurer: Wendy Daines
Past-President: Dick Puccio

Thursday 12:10 p.m. **Radisson**
Hotel **121 Members**
Vol. 84 No 5

NEXT WEEK
August 9 **Peter Marchese**

Forestry Preservation

COMING UP

August 16 **Wineglass**
Marathon
Mark Landin/Sheila/S. O'Leary

August 23 **Patrick Lynch**
Palatech Partners-
Cybersecurity

Last meeting

Jim Hudson welcomed us into the Carder Room while **Mary Hickey** took **Christy's** place by the door to catch any

guest or visiting Rotarians. **Ed Mancini** led us in our afternoon grace.

A card was being circulated for **John Sirianni** was just lost his mother. We also had an update that finally **Don Creath** is to return to the area by way of Founders Pavilion where he will undergo some rehabilitation.

Birthday table time

So no one need wonder any longer, yes, **Bill Plummer** was once again seated at the birthday table even though he was thinking that the ice cream might somehow turn into scotch. He was fined one way or the other. **Mike Platt** did not raise his hand to **Barry's** request for those who actually had birthdays to do so. However, in **Mike's** defense he missed attendance at said table in April so he is making up for it now! **George Welch, Jr.** tried the same ploy but failed to avoid a fine. Then there was the Rotary birthday song which honors the fellow but not the female.

Member Announcements

President Barry said he thought it was time for some announcements from our membership but that some of them had no idea they would be announcing anything!

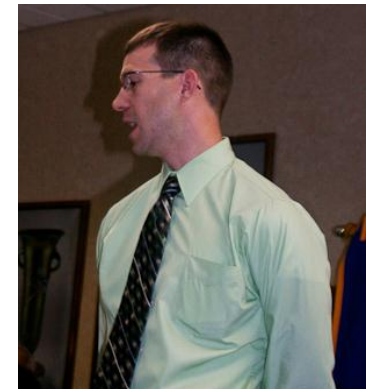
First up was **Michele Donegan** who was a good sport approaching the microphone since she was clueless about what she was going to announce. It appears that **Barry** is still a bit singed

from her attempt to fine him as he had her read the letter that came from the Radisson announcing that our meals are about to go up a dollar. She handled it with only the promise to **Barry** of: "you are in so much trouble". That saga continues.



Nancy Dubendorfer was absent but had an announcement anyway...a new grandbaby girl, Molly McGee, was born on 7/26.

Next up was **Brian Klotz** who announced that last year, once again, our club came through to raise \$2000 for Polio Plus. Actually we heard from past president **Puccio** that we were a little bit short and **Brian** was good enough to add to it for a solid 2K. The year before we raised \$3000 and **Brian** reminded us that we have yet to eradicate Polio.



Another unsuspecting person, **Pauline Emery**, was called upon as Chairperson

of the International Committee to update



us on who the Honorary Chairperson for the International dinner would be. **Pauline** had many library matters to think of so she quickly stated, err...**Brian McConnell**,

umm...**Andy Taylor**. But thankfully she recovered and let us know that she was pleased to announce that CCC's president, **Kate Douglas** will be filling those shoes this year.

Speaking of **Brian McConnell**, he was another unsuspecting announcer as **Barry** asked him to tell about our Rotary board's decision in light of the recent tornado destruction. **Brian**, who is on the board, made note of the fact that he abstained from the vote the board made to donate \$1000 to the Red Cross to aid in on-going relief. **Barry** had checked with the Elmira Club to see if they had any current plans to fill needs which they do not, but long term plans may include some arbor assistance as so many trees were downed.

Paul Tick was up next to present the Club with a special fund raising concept that hopefully will bring revenue to the Club for years to come. He showed us a sample of a booklet that contains some unique stories from people in this area.

His hope is to get many anecdotal stories to incorporate in the book. He is getting assistance from **Pauline** and **Wendy W.** in editing and from **Scott Bloor** in marketing the book. Please spend a little time writing so you don't have to spend money on things like poinsettias or raffle tickets.

Dave Carpenter thinks it would be a little like writing your own obituary.



Who's been missing??

Barry thought he saw a few faces that have been absent for a while, in fact there seemed to be quite a few, at least to him.

Avery Ackley was the first noticed but he was applauded as he actually brought back some make-ups with him. He had been gone on a 7 week jaunt and had really enjoyed the new RV.

Unfortunately the trip took a lot out of him and he only had 2 cents for a fine.

At that same table was **Jenny Ruland** who hasn't been seen in a while as well. She quickly acquiesced to that fact and handed up a \$20 bill to go toward **Paul's** book project.

Next on **Barry's** list was **Kate Foss** who had had quite the long absence due to gout. Fortunately sometimes feet do go with mouths and to that extent **Dick Pope** was stuck paying 2 bucks for a comment made at the last board meeting.

Barry had **Nora** stand and tell us where she was headed and why she would be gone for the next few meetings. **Nora** explained that she will be going to Finland next

week on a Rotary Friendship Exchange. She will go with other Rotarians and staying at 3 homes in 3 different cities as well as doing some additional traveling. This is a great way to visit Rotarians and really see how they live. The next trips coming up will be to South Africa and Argentina. She encouraged others to try it.



Our program

Dick Pope introduced **Michael Printup** who is the president of Watkins Glen International and who has been there since June of 2009. He is an integral part of keeping Nascar alive and well here as it is the only Nascar track in New York state.



Michael began his talk by saying that he tried very hard to tell us something about WGI that we haven't heard before. He began by telling us that this is finally near where his family is which is Hamburg, NY and that he is really glad to be much closer than he has been in many previous years.

This was his 20th relocation in his many years in business but is finally the closest one for both he and his wife as they reside in Horseheads.

Most recently he was pleased to show people from England, actual distant royal relations, the area including the track

and that they were so enthralled with the beautiful surrounding area.

Michael believes that there is a good relationship between the track and places like the Radisson. Every year there are more and more car clubs that come to use the track and need a place to stay and places to eat and that Corning really does an excellent job so that these individuals come back again. An example of other things the track does to aid the local economy includes the Wine Fest which averages 35-36 thousand people and that up to 65% of these people come from over 500 miles away and need supplies and restaurants if camping, and places to stay if they aren't.

He says that running the Glen during a big race weekend is similar to running a small city. Their usual staff runs about 35 people but by a Nascar race weekend, they have about 4,000 people working. By the way, they are still in need of some more if you want a job next weekend!

The organization of WGI is actually owned by the Franz family who truly believe in keeping as much "in house" as possible, including merchandizing and even food. Many of the gifts that are given during a Nascar weekend are all representative of the Finger Lakes, especially now that they have come up with the name Finger Lakes 355, which notes the kilometers of the area.

Ted Marks made note for further explanation about the collaboration of WGI and Corning fiber optics which is to be installed in 12 of the organization's facilities. They are very proud to be supportive of Corning, Inc.

Another connection with Corning can be found in the trophy that the track gives to the winner. It had been a \$4000 piece of Steuben, which along the way once was shattered by **Tony Stewart** by accident. Now it is a very unique piece designed and blown by CMOG's **Eric Meek**. **Michael** encouraged us to find the Youtube video showing this trophy being created. He is quite proud of the synergy with Corning and WGI.

50/50

Grand prize stands at \$558 with immediate prize being \$13. Here is our table winner trying to claim all \$13!

Or perhaps he is still in shock after ending his presidency in the "black"!



Wrmw
Photos: mulp

