

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.
Vol. 83 No 23

Radisson Hotel
124 Members

NEXT WEEK

13 December Holiday Party
Change of Venue:
Corning Country Club
Change of Time: 5:30

IN THE WINGS

20 December East High Chorus
27 December Dave Clark
3 January Sruti Akula
Spelling Bee
10 January Habitat for Humanity

LAST WEEK: We had a bunch of guests for lunch with Wendell Weeks as the speaker. **Jim Hudson** tickled the ivories preceding the meeting, much of it lost beneath the conversation din. **Dave Anderson** invoked the invocation to open the meeting. We had a new slim gray & blue Radisson lectern as Barry continues his campaign to eliminate the head table. Judging from the applause, most members do not agree.

Members, Guests, Visiting Rotarians and Kiwanians: **Susan O'Leary** did Yeoman (or is that Yeoperson?) duty checking in three dozen guests. Leading off, **George Welch** put a plug in to Wendell for his two guests; **Chris Sharkey** and **Tom Trantor** from Corning Enterprises. **Phil Palmesano** introduced his cohort from the state senate, **Tom O'Mara**.

The **Reserved Table** was filled with **Dick Pope's** guests: **Judith Navoy, Mike Kunigonis, Joe Dunning, Paul and Kate Douglas** and **Wendell Weeks** and Wendell's guest, **Kirk Gregg**. **Honorary Rotarian, Wendell Weeks** had the honor of introducing **Kirk Gregg** as his guest. Barry introduced his son **Quinn** and school superintendent, **Mike Ginalski**.



Visiting Rotarian, Ed Garrow and Bob Hugg joined us from **Sunrise Rotary in Fulton**. John Sands had his bride **Eileen** and **Lloyd Young** brought his son **Bill**, visiting from Tucson. **Mary Ann Marks** graced us as **Teddy's** guest. **Mary Hickey** brought **Marco Hickey** while **Todd Strong** introduced **Heidi Berghoff** and **Melanie Owens**. **Mike Rossettie** introduced his son-in-law, **Bulezin Azemi**. **Joe Valicenti** brought three of his cohorts, **Joe Rohl, Jessica Stanton** and **Matt Clark** to hear what Wendell had to say.

Three Kiwanians joined us as did a bevy of media types. From the Kiwanis Club we had: **Donna Chiarimonti, Judy Ratcliffe** and **Steve Rossettie**. The media were represented by **Pat Welsh, Candice Cole, John Zick, Derrick Ek** and **Eric Wensel**. Barry recognized Andy Rochester who does so much for the club, but who seldom graces us with his presence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Bill Boland was first up with details on the Holiday Party next Thursday at the Corning Country



Club; with the bar opening at 5:30. A harpist and a Barbershop Quartet are on the menu for our entertainment. **Mike**

Rossettie is still looking for Salvation Army Bell ringers for Saturday. Before the meeting, Nora and Wendy were passing our Sustaining Fund packets to one and all. She and her committee are looking for a project for a 501(c) 3 organization, said project to be sponsored by a club member



Applications are due by January 3rd. The fund now stands at \$750,000 and Nora would like to see it at \$200,000. Let's go Rotary.

Dick Pope announced that the December 27th meeting will feature **Dave Clark**.

Birthday Table was pretty sparse. The only Rotarian with an actual birthday was **Rosetta Kullberg** who just celebrated her 50th with a surprise party. **Ted Marks** invoked **Mary Ann's** birthday as his excuse and **Suresh Gulati** followed suit. **Bill Plummer** waved a donation check to the **Sustaining Fund** in honor of **Jane's 90th** birthday this month. Those not sitting at the table were nicked for \$5.00

Julian's time: He attended the swimming meet to cheer on a school friend. Saturday he helped out at the Pancake Breakfast. (It was noted that

Julian does a lot of volunteer activity.) On Saturday they cut their Christmas tree and spent the afternoon and evening attending Sparkle. On Sunday there was a Christmas Party for the exchange students and he met one of his fellow countrymen.

Barry and Dick Puccio made a bet as to when the parking lot behind their Market Street stores would be finished. Barry won and according to him, Dick owes the Sustaining Fund \$100. Dick tried to claim that it would be \$10 if he lost.

PROGRAM: Dick Pope made the formal introduction outlining Wendell's career since he joined Corning in 1983 to his present position as Chairman and CEO. In 2008-2009 he was made an Honorary Member of Corning Rotary.

Before Dick's introduction Barry had fun claiming that Wendell was one of a few Harvard graduates that came back with the same name then asking his son, Quinn to bring up the Steve Jobs bio. He related the story on pages 491-492 in which Steve could not reach Wendell on the phone nor could Wendell reach Steve which started a friendship.

Wendell began with the financial situation noting that their cash reserve is great than their debt and that although sales and profits are down Corning is in a strong financial position. Corning has high corporate values and takes the long view as what is best for the company, its employees and the



communities. They need from time to time to take difficult cost cutting measures such as layoffs (totaling 100 locally) and hiring freezes. Decisions

Locally, they have enabled the 35,000 sq. ft. expansion of the Alternative School for Math and Science, investing in the three year conversion of the Steuben factory to an addition to CMoG, converting the Fallbrook plant site to a 10 acre park, supporting the new transportation center and refurbishing of the Centerway Bridge as Corning Enterprises celebrates 30 years of involvement in the community.

involving people are the toughest. The LCD market is maturing, but remains strong with increased sales and long term agreements reached with set makers.

In closing, Wendell noted that change and volatility are facts of life and Corning must continually renew and change. Only 0.1 % of businesses survive for more than 40 years and the fact that Corning is still here after 161 years means we must be doing something right.

One billion devices now use Gorilla glass. Corning must remain diverse both in its products and in the markets it serves with 78% of its market outside the country. They continue to diversify their products and their processes. Innovative display technologies have led to sharper colors and higher resolution. The higher temperature capabilities of Lotus result in devices with higher pixels. Willow, an extremely thin glass, five times thinner than its predecessor, is thinner than dollar bills.

Q&A: Walter Smith asked about China's attitude toward patents. Wendell replied that it was mixed, but expects the situation to improve with time.

Photos by Rick Davis

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Antimicrobial glass promises to be a winner. Wendell stated that smart phones have ten times the bacteria than on a public toilet seat. The capacity of optical fiber continues to increase and their Mobile Systems were used for the Super Bowl and both political conventions. Corning continues to push the frontier. The future looks bright.