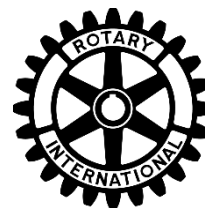


The Peal

Rotary Club of Canandaigua



Meeting Thursdays 12:15 p.m.
American Legion Post #256
454 North Main Street

www.canandaiguarotary.org

Club # 4765, District 7120
Organized Apr. 24, 1919

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Official Newsletter of the Canandaigua Rotary Service Foundation

Today's Program: Lynn Johnson & Tam Spitzer – Budding Readers

Next Week: Joint Meeting with the Kiwanis

Meeting Notes from: December 18, 2026

Pledge: Paul Harvey

Invocation: Trisha Carey

Song: National Baked Cookies – Kim Tenreiro

Guests: Peter Wolak guest of Kent Gilges

Visiting Rotarians: None

Announcements:

Paul Harvey told a story about his neighbor **Bob Lacourse** milling wood for him, so he gifted him RPO tickets...which caused an issue with Bob's sister (**Donna Lacourse**) who wanted to sell him tickets. So Paule donated \$50.00 to **Kim Tenreiro**, let us know his show Christmas Carol raised approximately \$7000.00 for charity. Judi Gorenflo paid \$20.00 for a Pit Pass. **Scott Kesel** talked about the need for host families for our exchange students. He created a [document](#) that can be given out informing people of the program. A reminder to be signing the new members' directories and a reminder for the newer members to bring in the directories to be signed. **Preston Pierce** asked for donations for the Holiday Cheer Collection, we ended up collecting \$1200.00!

Happy Dollars / Fines: **George Herren** kicked in for his 3rd son who was born 55 years ago. **Ken Poole** was happy that there was a great turnout for the Community Band, and **Ben Green** was glad that his glasses and shirt matched and that it was his cousin's 37th birthday. **Dave Hutchins** let us know that after years of being Ben's wing man, Ben now has a girlfriend.

New Board Members: Congratulations to the new board members: **Kyle Sheppard, Kathleen Draper, David Hutchings**. The alternatives are **Cat Barnum**, and **Adeline Rudolph**

Program: Name: John Baronich – Underground Railroad Quilt

Mark Sheppard introduced our guest speaker, **John Baronich**, a man of many talents—from rock climbing and blacksmithing to historical reenactments. John shared the moving story behind his year-long project: a meticulously crafted quilt documenting the perilous journey of enslaved people seeking freedom via the **Underground Railroad**. Each square of the quilt serves as a visual map, encoded with symbols that guided travelers through a landscape of danger. The narrative begins and ends with the **Wagon Wheel**, framing the start and ending of the journey. John highlighted several key patterns and their hidden meanings: **The Monkey Wrench:** A tribute to the blacksmith's role, signaling the time to gather metal tools and information. **The North Star & Bear Paw:** While the North Star provided a literal compass, the Bear Paw pattern indicated the rugged terrain of the Appalachian Trail. **The Log Cabin:** This symbol alerted travelers to specific safe houses or "stations" along the path. **Shoofly & Bow Ties:** These patterns identified "conductors" and allies who would provide food, medical care, and fresh clothing. **The Drunkard's Path:** A reminder to follow the winding rivers to avoid detection, leading eventually to the **Crossroads** (Cleveland, Ohio). The journey concluded with the **Ship Pattern**, representing the final leg of the voyage across the water toward true freedom. John's presentation offered a powerful reminder of the ingenuity and courage woven into our history.

Joker Draw: **Tom Rogers** won the \$19.00 in the pot and **Janet Tenreiro** drew the 4 Clubs

Upcoming Rotary Events: Enjoy the upcoming holidays, see everyone on January 8th.