The Peal

Rotary Club of Canandaigua

Meeting Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. American Legion Post #256 454 North Main Street	**www.canandaiguarotary.org** Club # 4765, District 7120 Organized Apr. 24, 1919	Publication Date: June 4, 2026

Official Newsletter of the Canandaigua Rotary Service Foundation

Today's Program: Service Above Self Luncheon
Next Week: Holly Kelly – Omni Corp

Meeting Notes from: May 28, 2026
Pledge: President, Kent Gilges
Prayer/Inspiration: Beverly Cartwright
Song: Sean Buck: Rotary Anthem

Visiting Rotarians: None were present.

Guests: **Donna Lacourse's** son, **Rainier,** joined us for lunch. He just moved here from Texas after graduating college.

Exchange Student, Maria Polese *(from Brazil)***:**
Maria enjoyed attending the Memorial Day Celebrations, including watching the parade. She was able to visit with both or her host families on Memorial Day. She said she enjoyed senior skip day, spending the day with her host mom and getting alternations done on her senior ball dress. Maria has her last chorus concert coming up on June 8th @ 7:30 pm at the Academy, in case anyone would like to attend.

Announcements:

An update on our American Flag Project from Kim & Janet – we are currently at 387 flag subscriptions for a total of $29,025 raised to help support our Rotary projects. We will be at 400 subscriptions before we know it!

President Kent made an apology to **David Korpiel** for receiving a rubber check when he won the football pool. Kent assured David the check he now has is good to go. **Kathleen Draper** offered up a volunteer opportunity to anyone who may want to help at an upcoming event at the Cobblestone Arts Center (on Rt. 332) on May 30th & 31st. Kathleen can provide additional info if you are interested. **President Kent** let us know the entry fee to our club meetings has been changed back to $5 (instead of $8). Our board will be working on ideas of how to fund our operating account going forward. **Kari Buch** let us know United Way is looking for businesses to participate in a 12-hour class to be held on June 30th and July 1st. The class is titled ALICE @ Work. (ALICE stands for Asset Limited, Income Constrained and Employed.) They are looking for CEOs and others in charge of businesses to attend. The course does count for those who may need continuing education credits. Contact Kari if interested.

Happy Dollars: **Gloria Dancausse** was happy to have watched the Memorial Day Parade and to volunteer at the Legion that day providing lunch for Veterans. **President Kent** was more than happy that David Korpiel's son, Ben, volunteered to be available the day of Kent's daughter's wedding to address any problem that may arise that day, such as a circuit breaker popping or some other mechanical issue. **David Korpiel** was very happy Ben volunteered! **Jack Kellogg** was proud of his three grandsons. The one was honored for his grade point average, and the twins were both awarded basketball scholarships. **Bob Palumbo** had recently visited his son's family in Massachusetts. His granddaughter is now 13 years old! He also shared that for the first time in 55 years he is no longer driving a pickup truck. He purchased an SUV to drive. He also shared he forgot to share is most memorable moment in Rotary during Past Presidents' Day. He recalled that

back on August 15, 1985, he was just getting ready to lead Past Presidents' Day when his wife called him to tell him it was time to go to the hospital as she was getting ready to deliver their first baby. Bob thought perhaps she could wait just a little bit longer – at least until he was done with the meeting. He made the right decision by handing everything over to Past President Joe Delforte, Sr. and getting his wife to the hospital. Their son, Eric, was born at 4:00 later that day.

Program: ***President Kent Gilges – Club Assembly***
President Kent used the club assembly to ask fellow Rotarians to talk about some of our major projects.

Mark Sheppard talked about the Flag Project as Kim Tenreiro is away on vacation. Mark shared that Kim has been doing a phenomenal job with the flags, almost more than we should expect anyone to do on their own. Mark would like to organize a group of members to assist Kim with the cleaning and storage of the flags.
Steve Uebbing is working along with Greg Kane at the high school to organize this year's RPO concert. The hope is to be able to have all ticket sales done electronically. We do expect to have a chorus group back into the line up this year. The date of the concert is Thursday, December 3rd.
Curt Bailey said Kyle Sheppard will be heading up the Bowl-a-Thon for scholarships next year. Kyle and his wife, Brin did a great job helping Curt with this year's event where a total of $5000 was raised. Curt also wanted to acknowledge how very helpful Tim Smith was at Roseland Bowl.
Rick Hawks let us know we will be having the Jackpot Drawing this year. He challenged Jack Moran to increase his sales from 80 some tickets sold last year to a total of 100 tickets sold. Of course Rick was only kidding (I think) and reiterated selling tickets is a group effort. The drawing will be held at a club meeting on September 17th. We hope to sell 600 tickets.
Ellen Polimeni talked about scholarships and much discussion was held about scholarships. She said we had 125 applicants this year vying for 4 scholarships. She and others suggested we should raise the amount we award for each scholarship as $1000 honestly doesn't go far at all when it comes to college expenses. Bob Palumbo would like to see us once again award scholarships to students attending the Canandaigua Academic and Career Center and President Kent wondered about home schooled students being able to apply for our scholarships. Ellen welcomed any suggestions folks may have and suggested if you are passionate about this, to join the scholarship committee.
Greg Gullo addressed Adopt-a-Highway in Paul Harvey's absence. Paul is working on scheduling a date for some time in June.
Mary Green talked about the district grants we award each year. She asked for suggestions prior to the beginning of 2027 as it seems we are always late in identifying needs in our community that would benefit from a district grant. In the past we've purchased computers for the Historical Society and the Library, purchased washing machines and dryers for various organizations and special equipment for the BOCES Learning Center at Red Jacket School. If you have ideas, please share them with Mary.
President Kent shared he and President-Elect, Paul Harvey, are discussing possibly doing a 'sticky dot' activity sometime in August so members can identify areas they would like our club to focus on in the coming years. President Kent was also happy to report our membership numbers are up for the year.
There was discussion about how to get younger members and many suggestions were offered, some of which we have tried in the past.
Overall it was a very productive club assembly, and many had the opportunity to ask questions and others to share their knowledge of our club's activities over the years.

Joker Draw:
Kari Buch took home $17.
Don Collins left money in the pot for next week after drawing the 2 of hearts.

Upcoming Rotary Events:
June 5 – First Friday @ Star Cider, 4:30pm, all are welcome!

June 13 – Camp Onseyawa Golf Tournament @ Silver Creek Golf Club, Waterloo