



Rota-Briefs



Rotary Club of Cohoes - A Subsidiary of Rotary International

May 13, 2009

Invocation: Ed Tremblay
Song: Chuck Ries – By The Beautiful Sea
Anniversaries: none
Birthdays: Keith Hornbrook
Visiting Rotarians: Bill Nathan
Guests: Adam Hotaling

Big Bucks

Mystery Raffle: Adam Hotaling
Powerball: Chuck Ries tried for the prize but was not successful.
Sawbuck: Bo Goliger

Rotarians Present: Barrett, Demers, Doemel, Farrell, Hornbrook, Hull, Libby, McDonald, Ries, Signoracci, Ed Tremblay, Linda Tremblay and Van Alstine

Good News/Bad News: The following members paid happy/ sad dollars:

Ed and Linda Tremblay for a wonderful trip to Hawaii and San Francisco, and for missed meetings; Chuck Ries for his annual fishing trip to the Adirondacks; Bill Hull for a good time celebrating his anniversary; and Bob Van Alstine because it is a beautiful day.

Club Business:

Colin made the following announcement:

- The club received a thank you card from Bob Van Alstine for the gift to Hospice in memory of his father.

District Announcements:

Bill Nathan, assistant District Governor, made the following announcements:

- The [Group Study Exchange \(GSE\) Team from Taiwan](#) will make a presentation on May 27th at the Wolfert's Roost Country Club at 12:15 pm.
- On May 29th, there will be a [Farewell Dinner Cruise](#) for the GSE Team from Taiwan on the Dutch Apple at 5:30 PM.
- Membership in District 7190 is low and is approaching 1,400. At this level, we run the risk of being merged with another district. Bill stated that it is important for all clubs to increase membership and to be sure that they are up to date in reporting membership statistics to RI.
- Each Rotary club in the district should host a public event and raise at least \$1,000 for End Polio Now. [A Community Forum on Polio](#) will be held at 4:00 pm at the Saratoga Springs United Methodist Church. An award winning documentary entitled [The Final Inch](#) will be shown.
- District 7190 is sponsoring the Purple Pinkie Project. For \$1.00 a student can get their pinkie finger painted purple if they have received their required immunization shots.
- On May 1, 2009 a ceremony was conducted at the district Conference honoring those Rotarians who passed away during the past year. Robert T. Van Alstine was one of them. Bill Nathan presented Bob's son with a certificate for the District 7190's contribution to [Trees for Life](#) in Bob's honor.

Program:

Bob Libby, Superintendent and Adam Hotaling, Treasurer for the Cohoes city School District made a presentation to our club on the proposed 2009/10 school district budget, see attached.

John Doemel responded on behalf of the club.

Rotary Club Officers

Colin Demers - President
Marshall Barrett - Vice President/Program Chair
Robert W. Van Alstine - Secretary/
Editor Club Newsletter
Michael Brooks - Treasurer
Beverly Signoracci - Sergeant At Arms
Mike Popolizio - District Governor
Cohoes Rotary Web Site - www.rotaryclubofcohoes.org

Next Week's Program:

Dr. Kevin Costello; Tour of Duty in Iraq.



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Attachment to May 13, 2009 Newsletter

Cohoes Central School District Proposed 2009/10 Budget Highlights



Colin Demers – President Adam Hotaling, Treasurer and Bob Libby, Superintendent, of the Cohoes City School District provided an overview of the proposed 2009/10 budget.

2009/10 Budget Process:

Bob began by reviewing the process they used to prepare the budget. School district expenditures are predominantly personal services (salaries, fringe benefits, etc). In Cohoes, the revenue side is about 55% from State Aid, 36% from Real Property Taxes and the remaining 9% is from a variety of other sources.

The process began by seeking input from community, staff and the Board of Education. On March 5th, 2009 50 residents attended a public meeting at which the following priorities were identified:

- Continue to maintain high quality instructional programs.
- Maintain small class sizes, a Pre-K program, athletic and performance arts programs.
- Continue the district's [Positive Behavioral & Interventions Support](#) (PBIS) program, which works to teach students appropriate behaviors so they have a clear idea of how to act.

Federal Stimulus Money and State Aid:

Bob Libby explained that in March 2009 he learned that Governor Patterson's proposed New York State budget would have reduced State Aid to the district. Fortunately State Aid for 2009/10 year was somewhat [restored](#) to the 2008/9 level by Federal Stimulus - [American Recovery & Reinvestment Act](#) funding of which about \$785, 000 is included in State Aid. It is expected that these funds will keep State Aid at this level for the next two years.

Bob also explained that the objective behind the Federal Stimulus money is to: save or create jobs, and to improve student achievement.

2009/10 Budget Highlights:

Bob and Adam explained that the proposed 2009/10 budget includes anticipated expenditure levels of \$36 million, and an anticipated 2.97% real property tax rate increase. The anticipated real property tax levy would be \$12.8 million.

This budget is based on the assumption that will be no staff layoffs. However, those retiring will not be replaced. Expenditures for building support will be reduced by 6%. Part of this is savings in energy costs due to making many of the buildings more energy efficient.

What You Get for Money Spent:

Another statistic that they explained was per pupil costs. The Cohoes City School District spends \$8,352 per pupil, similar size school districts are spending about \$9,809 per pupil and the New York State average is \$9,485. At the same time [students](#) from the Cohoes City School District exceed NYS standards as measured by standardized testing. 90% of the 2008 graduating class went to college. The [Cohoes Middle School](#) and the [Van Schick Grade School](#) are recognized by the New York State Education Department as Model Schools because they use effective practices that improve student performance.

The [budget vote](#) is Tuesday, May 19th, 2009.

When and Where Other Rotary Clubs Meet:

Monday	
Corinth	7:15PM
Agape Bed and Breakfast, Rt. 9N, Corinth	
Hudson Falls	12:10 PM
Pizza Hut. Rt.4, Fort Edward	
Racing City Rotary	5:30 PM
Olde Gaslight Restaurant, 12 Ballston Avenue, Saratoga Springs	
Burnt Hills/Ballston Lake	6:15 PM
Bill Sewell Community Room, Town of Ballston Town Hall	
Lake George	6:15 PM
Holiday Inn Rt. 2223 State Rt. 9	
Tuesday	
Northern Lake George	7:30 AM
Watson Arts Center, Silver Bay	
Wilton	7:30 AM
Friendly's Restaurant, Route 50, Wilton	
Latham	12:00 PM
Century House, Latham	
Watervliet	12:10 PM
First Presbyterian Church, 819 23 rd Street, Watervliet Meets 2 nd and 4 th weeks only)	
Ballston Spa	12:15 PM
Manna's Restaurant, 17 Low St, Ballston Spa	
Glove Cities	12:15 PM
Holiday Inn, Rt. 30A, Johnstown	
Menands	12:15 PM
The Corner Well Restaurant, 698 North Pearl St.	
Scotia	6:00 PM
Turf Tavern, 40 Mohawk Avenue, Scotia	
South Glens Falls	5:45 PM
Humbuggs, Corner Bluebird Rd. and Rt. 32, South Glens Falls	
Chestertown	6:15 PM
O.P. Frederick's Restaurant, Rt. 8., Chestertown	
Lansingburgh	6:15 PM
Paradise Lounge, 630 2 nd and 117 th Streets, Troy	
Northville	6:30 PM
(Call for locations and directions)	
Schoharie	6:30 PM
Parrot House - Rt. 30 Main St. Schoharie	

Wednesday	
Niskayuna	7:15 AM
Route 7 Diner, 1090 Troy-Schenectady Road	
Delmar	7:30 AM
Normanside Country Club, 150 Salisbury Rd., Delmar	
Mohawk Valley	7:30 AM
Senior Center, 204 Canal St., Fort Plain	
Schenectady East	7:30 AM
Old Country Buffet, Crosstown Plaza, Rt. 7, Schenectady	
Turning Point	7:30 AM
General Schuyler Pantry 166 Broad St., Schuylerville	
Champlain Canal	8:00 PM
Community Room, Mid-Rise Senior Apts, 180 N. Main Street Mechanicville	
Albany	12:15 PM
Wolferts Roost Country Club, 1230 Van Rensselaer Blvd., Albany	
Amsterdam	12:15 PM
Raindancer Steak Parlor, Rt. 30N, Amstgerdam	
Cohoes	12:15 PM
Century House, Rt. 9, Latham	
Colonie-Guilderland	12:15 PM
Western Turnpike Golf Course Rt. 20, Guilderland	
Saratoga Springs	12:15 PM
Longfellows Restaurant, Rt. 9P	
Cobleskill	6:10 PM
Best Western Inn of Cobleskill Rt. 7, Main Street, Cobleskill.	
Granville	6:15 PM
AJ's Restaruent, Quaker Street, Granville	

Thursday	
Malta Sunrise	7:15 AM
Malta Diner Rts. 9 & 67, Malta (Exit 12 off I87)	
Rotterdam Sunrise	7:15 AM
McLanes Restaurant, 2717 Broadway, Rotterdam	
Shenendehowa	7:15 AM
Coburg Village Retirement Facility, Grooms Rd., Clifton Park	
North Creek	7:30 AM
Marsha's Restaurant, Main St., North Creek	
Schenectady	12:00 PM
Stockade Inn, 1 North Church St., Schenectady	
Twin Bridges	12:00 PM
Salty's, Northway Exit 8A, East of Rt. 9, Halfmoon	
Glens Falls	12:10 PM
Queensbury Hotel, 88 Ridge Street, glens Falls	
Troy	12:15 PM
The Red Front Restaurant, 71 Division Street, Troy	
Middleburgh	6:05 PM
Middleburgh United Methodist Church, Rt. 145 Middleburgh Main St. & Bush Rd.)	
Salem	6:15 PM
Bunker Hill B&B on Bunker Hill Rd. Salem (5.5 mi. NW of Salem)	
Southern Rensselaer	6:15 PM
Holiday Inn Express,US 4 East Greenbush (Exit 9 off I 90)	
Broadalbin	6:30 PM
The White Holland House, 1520 Ste Highway 29, Gloversville	
Fort Ann	6:30 PM
Mountain View Java, Rt 4, Fort Ann	
Sharon Springs	6:30 PM
Pit Stop BBQ, Rts. 10 & 20, Sharon Springs	
Friday	
Glenville	7:15 AM
Turf Tavern, Rt. 50, Scotia	

Rotary Club of Cohoes
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