



# Rota-Briefs



Rotary Club of Cohoes - A Subsidiary of Rotary International

September 30, 2009

**Invocation:** Bob Van Alstine  
**Song:** Chuck Ries – Cohoes Rotary “Fight” Song  
**Anniversaries:** Colin Demers  
**Birthdays:** Jake Robert

**Visiting Rotarians:** Jim Dillon, Byron Moak  
**Guests:** Rene Comtois, Henry Dufresne

## Big Bucks

**Mystery Raffle:** Linda Tremblay  
**Powerball:** Mike Brooks tried for the prize but was not successful.  
**Sawbuck:** Ed Tremblay

**Rotarians Present:** Barrett, Brooks, Cooley, Farrell, Hornbrook, McDonald, Musiker, Ries, Speidel, L. Tremblay and Van Alstine

**Good News/Bad News:** The following members paid happy/ sad dollars:  
Bob Van Alstine because he gave Bill Dillon’s Rotary Badge to his nephew Jim Dillon who is visiting us; Walter Speidel because this is the 5<sup>th</sup> week he is back with us; Harry McDonald because Rene Comtois is with us, and because he can remember Rene sitting on the front porch of his house with his son, and because Bill Dillon was president of our club in 1972-3; Jack Farrell for missed meetings; Linda Tremblay because she will not be here next week; Marshall Barrett because he is still working on the lower level of his house for his parents.

## Rotary Club Officers

**Marshall Barrett** - President  
**Keith Hornbrook** – President Elect  
**Robert W. Van Alstine** - Secretary/  
Editor Club Newsletter  
**Michael Brooks** - Treasurer  
**Beverly Signoracci** - Sergeant At Arms  
**John C. Eaton** - District Governor  
**Cohoes Rotary Web Site** - [www.rotaryclubofcohoes.org](http://www.rotaryclubofcohoes.org)

## Events/ Information:

- The Twin Bridges Rotary Club will hold their Annual Karaoke Night on October 2, 2009 at Phelan’s Banquet House, 1589 Route 9, Clifton Park from 7 to 11 pm.
- Haunted Festival, October 17<sup>th</sup> noon to 9 pm at George Street Park in Cohoes.
- Cohoes Rotary Informational Mixer, November 18, 2009, 6 to 8 pm at the Century House in Latham.
- The Rotary Leadership Institute will be held at Siena College on November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009.
- Exclusive performance of Beauty and the Beast for Rotarians on Wednesday, December 9, 2009 at the Cohoes Music Hall.

## Club Business:

The advertising campaign for our club’s Rotary Informational Mixer (same as the Rotary Information Night).

Information has appeared in the following:

- [Ning](#), District 7190’s Social Networking web site, see [Cohoes Rotary Informational Mixer](#).
- October 2009 Toolbox, monthly newsletter from District 7190, see page 3. I attached it the e-mail to you with this club newsletter because it is not on the district web site yet.
- Rotary Events, October 1, 2009, e-mail from Richard Hodge, I will forward his e-mail to each of you.

It is **import that each member** provide Marshall or myself one more names of people that you know that we should invite to attend the Informational Mixer on November 18<sup>th</sup>. We need your help to make this event a success!

## Program:

Brian Enright, Senior Vice President of Janney, Montgomery Scott, spoke to our Rotary Club about the economy and investing.

Keith Hornbrook responded on behalf of the club.

**Next Week’s Program:** Carolyn Brown, Wine Tasting



**Rotary Club of Cohoes**  
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**Investing**  
**Brian Enright, Senior Vice President**  
**Janney Montgomery Scott**



**Keith Hornbrook presenting a Appreciation Certificate to Brian Enright**

Brian Enright, Senior Vice President of Janney, Montgomery Scott, spoke to our Rotary Club about the economy and investing. Brian began his remarks by stating that he was impressed that we begin our meetings with the 'Pledge of Allegiance' and sing 'America'.

Brian began working at First Albany, known as Broadpoint today, about 20 years ago after graduating from college. He worked on the bond trading desk for 17 years. Three years ago, he and two others started a taxable fixed income desk in the Albany office of Janney, Montgomery Scott (Janney). Janney is a 176 year old firm based in Philadelphia, PA.

People who work in this field focus either on institutional or retail investors. Brian explained that he deals exclusively with retail investors. Retail bond trades are mostly done by telephone. You must always take care of your clients! 70% of his business is fixed income securities.

2008 was a horrific year for investors. It was a once in a lifetime 'perfect storm'. Citigroup, the largest bank in the United States, and AIG, the largest insurance group almost failed. Since

then, some good headway has been made, however we are not out of the woods yet! People are saving more and spending less, but we have to worry about housing and inflation.

Brian feels that the number one reason for the 2008 collapse was that hedge funds were not regulated. They took a lot of risk and made big fees for doing it. They are not regulated like the stock and bond markets are. Since they have significant leverage, when the economy is going well, they can do very well; but when the economy is not, they can go down very fast! Brian feels that hedge funds will eventually be regulated.

Brian began discussing the municipal bond market by explaining that the purchaser of a municipal bond becomes a creditor of the local government. In this capacity, the bond holder has the highest priority claim on assets of the local government. Traditionally, bonds are a conservative investment; they are considered 'the anchor' of the portfolio.

Traditionally, many investors stayed away from municipal bonds because of the comparatively low yields. Preferred stocks traditionally had a better return because they have more risk. After the 2008 crash, everything changed.

Bonds have fixed maturities. They may also have call provision. This means that the issuer of the bonds has the right to call them before they mature at a specified price at or above par. Usually, municipal bonds have low risk. Many of them are rated AAA, or AA. Anything lower than Baa3/ Bbb- is considered a junk bond. If bonds are insured, they have a higher bond rating. General obligation (GO) bonds are the safest. Revenue bonds, for which only designated revenues are pledged to pay bond holders, have some more risk.

Municipal bonds are subject to market fluctuation during the life of the bond. If interest rates go down, the values of bonds go up. If interest rates go up, the values of bonds go down. Typically municipal bonds however are less volatile. After the 2008, bond ratings for most governments were down graded, many went from AA or A. Today, investors in municipal bonds want to know what the bond rating of the issuer is.

Another advantage to municipal bonds is that at they are tax free. If you live in New York State and buy a bond issued by the State of New York or a local government within the State of New York, the interest you earn on them is not taxable for Federal or New York State purposes. If you live in New York State and buy a bond issued by the a state other than New York State or a local government that is not located in New York State, then the interest you earn on them is not taxable for Federal, but is taxable for New York State purposes.

When purchasing bonds, factors to consider are your tax bracket and how soon need your money.

## When and Where Other Rotary Clubs Meet:

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

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

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

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