

## **Skaneateles Suntarian**

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***Sow The Seeds of Love*** (2002-03 Rotary International's Theme)

**January 16th, 2003 issue**

***Skaneateles Sunrise Provisional Rotary Club***

*Meets every Thursday Mornings, 7-8 am at Johnny Angels, Skaneateles NY*

**Officers:** President, *Doug Hill*; Secretary, *John Rooney*; Treasurer, *Toni Feldmann*  
**4-Avenues of Service Chairs:** Club Service - *Bill Lynn*; Community Service - *Ralph Edmonds*; International Service - *Rhett Weiss*; Vocational Service - *Elaine Taggart*

**Board Members:** *Bill Lynn, Rhett Weiss, Elaine Taggart & Tim Lynn*

**District Advisor:** *PDG Ward Vuillemot*

**Skaneateles Rotary Club Support Team:** *Bill Stevens, Donn Nottage, Dick Poppa & Peter Anderson*

**This Week's Program:** **01/16/03** – *Steve White* on Antiques

**Next Week's Program:** **01/23/03** – Zoning and Planning with *Andy Ramsgard*

**Last Week's Meeting:** **01/09/03** – Rotary Youth Exchange with *Lori Ruhlman* and student *Zuheh Lara-Rojas* from Costa Rica

- **Present:** *Elaine Taggart, Doug Hill, Rhett Weiss, Rich Berman, Ralph Edmonds, Dave Labourdette, John Rooney, Toni Feldman, and Ron Bond*
- **Visitarians:** *Bill Stevens and Donn Nottage of the Skaneateles Evening Club*

**Program:** Exchange student *Zuheh Lara-Rojas* from Costa Rica joined us today to share her experiences with us. *Lori Ruhlman* who was *Zuheh's* first host mom introduced *Zuheh* and also spoke of her own perspective as a parent of a Rotary Exchange Student and how hard it can be for the parent to adjust but *Lori* emphasized that the benefit for the student is incomparable to anything else in their life. *Zuheh* spoke of some of the cultural differences and exemplified how the students quickly pick up their new language. *Zuheh* is even considering changing her college major after visiting some local technology firms. Overall *Lori* and *Zuheh* were impressed with how well Rotary runs the Exchange program both here and at Rotary locations around the world. *Zuheh* was invited to come back to our Sunrise club in 6 months before she returns home and share any other new experiences she gained.

**Food Pantry** - Tuesday February 11th is the next Food Pantry Day.

**Drivers/Volunteers** - If you or someone you know is available to drive, Both FISH and the Laker Limo could always use help. Contact *Ralph* to sign up and be trained.

**Community Event Suggestion** - *Dave* brought up the idea of resurrecting an annual Snowfest event at Austin Park like what was held during the 1970's.

Preliminary feedback from *Matt Major* was positive for coordinating it with the Rec Center and a hockey tournament weekend. Outdoor events could include ice sculpturing, dog sled races and snowmobile rides and more.

**Calendar of Coming Events:**

- **Jan 15th – Mid-Winter Meeting at Auburn Holiday Inn**
- **Jan 16th - Program** -Antiques with Steve White
- **Jan 23th - Program** - Zoning and Planning with Andy Ramsgard
- **Jan 30th - Program** Open
- **Feb 6th- Program** Open
- **Feb 13th- Program** Open
- **Feb 20th- Program** Volunteer Firefighting with Jerry S.

### **Feb 28th & March 1st - President Elect Training Session (PETS)**

#### **Rotary Information**

##### **Invocation At Club Meetings**

In many Rotary clubs, particularly in Judeo-Christian nations, it is customary to open weekly meetings with an appropriate invocation or blessing. Usually such invocations are offered without reference to specific religious denominations or faiths.

Rotary policy recognizes that throughout the world Rotarians represent many religious beliefs, ideas and creeds. The religious beliefs of each member are fully respected, and nothing in Rotary is intended to prevent each individual from being faithful to such convictions.

At international assemblies and conventions, it is traditional for a silent invocation to be given. In respect for all religious beliefs and in the spirit of tolerance for a wide variety of personal faiths, all persons are invited to seek divine guidance and peace "each in his own way." It is an inspiring experience to join with thousands of Rotarians in an international "silent prayer" or act of personal devotion. Usually all Rotary International board and committee meetings begin with a few moments of silent meditation. In this period of silence, Rotary demonstrates respect for the beliefs of all members, who represent the religions of the world.

Since each Rotary club is autonomous, the practice of presenting a prayer or invocation at club meetings is left entirely to the traditions and customs of the individual club, with the understanding that these meeting rituals always be conducted in a manner which will respect the religious convictions and faiths of all members.