



THE SANDPIPER



THE WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER OF THE KIWANIS CLUB OF SAND LAKE, NY

P. O. Box 535, West Sand Lake, NY 12196

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Meets 6:30 PM Mondays at The Lakeview Inn Restaurant

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MEETING OF JULY 25, 2016

President Stuart J. Nippes, presiding

GREETINGS & INVOCATION by **Bob Pasquarelli**

GUEST: Ken Gypson, speaker

WELCOME BACK, Mike Gates, Stu Nippes, & Eve Ward!

PROJECT SIGNUP SHEETS

DOORS OF HOPE, unloading food truck

Fri Aug 5th: **Daniels, Behson, Wagner**, _____, _____

Mon Aug 15th: **Wagner**, _____, _____, _____

RENSELAER DIVISION COUNCIL/INTERCLUB, 4:30 pm Wed Aug 10th, Wash Ave Firehouse

Booker, Lane, Hamlin, Loveridge, Ward, Pasquarelli, Brownrigg, Nippes

47th MONTHLY PASTA DINNER @ WSL Firehouse, Saturday, August 13, 2016

12 – 7, Kitchen/Cook: **Booker, Wagner, Daniels, Brownrigg**

3 – 5:30, Setup & Serve: **Hamlin, Koury, Glasser, Metchick**

3:30 – 7, Cashier: **Ward**

5 – 7:30, Serve & Takedown: **Hamlin, Lane, Metchick**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ **Eve Ward**: I have the tickets to the Valley Cats game for next Monday for those who ordered them; please pay tonight if possible. I am also collecting donations from members toward buying school supplies for needy elementary & middle school students, and I need reservations for the Steak & Lobster

Roast at Camp Rotary on Friday, August 19th. This is a big undertaking, and lots of help is needed at 5 PM!

- ❖ **David Booker:** I have received the proceeds from the Kiwanis Gumball Machines for 2014 and 2015 - \$135!



- ❖ **Mike Gates:** Donations from the Eliminate Bucket tonight are \$148.04!



- ❖ **John Brownrigg:** The East Greenbush Club is having a car show on Sunday!
- ❖ **Blood Drive Thurs Aug 18th @ Church of the Covenant 1 – 6 PM.** Help needed! Please sign up on line.

PRESENTATIONS

President Stu awarded pin tabs to two loyal members:



to **Eve Ward** for 15 years' perfect attendance and to **John Brownrigg** for 23 years' perfect attendance! Congratulations to both of you!

PROGRAM Bryce Ginther introduced his friend Ken Gypson who presented a nostalgic look at local auto



racing venues of the past, illustrated by some of his personal collection of old photos. He also had many books of memorabilia available for us to look at on our own. Ken's collection is the result of a lifetime of following the racers. Auto racing began in the US in 1895 in Chicago. The first race at the Indianapolis Speedway was in 1909, and in NY State was the



Vanderbilt Cup on Long Island. Syracuse began in 1949; NASCAR started in Florida by Bill France; Fonda Speedway began in 1939 and is still operating; Lebanon Valley started in 1953 and it too is still popular. Albany County once had 10 racetracks, and in its heyday of the 30s, 40s, and 50s



Rensselaer County had 15! Many early tracks were sponsored by AAA, and many had midget cars of three sizes. Vehicles were stock cars, some modified. In answer to a question, Ken replied that the track ovals were, and still are, always run counter-clockwise. All the local tracks were short track dirt ovals. Big time NASCAR of course uses only paved raceways. Ticket prices at local tracks were usually \$1; races were run on



Sunday afternoons at every location, yet they were always packed! Prize purses were usually around \$150 to \$200. Compare that to the thousands that NASCAR drivers compete for! Some of the more local tracks were State Line Speedway in North Bennington, which was partly in both states of NY & VT; Carroll's Grove Speedway in Brunswick/Tamarac; Pine Bowl Speedway in Snyder's Corners, (also known as Mud Lake), started in 1948; and two in our own towns: Route 66 Speedway, located at the corner of Rtes. 66 and 351, diagonally across from Algonquin Middle School, known briefly as Hollywood Bowl for about a year around 1960 for its proximity to the



Hollywood Drive In Theater. And of course, there was the Burden Lake Speedway where local racer Kenny Tremont Sr. became so well known. His son Kenny Jr carries on today at Lebanon Valley. Harold Garstang, local auto repair garage owner, ran the beer concession until a DWI took away his beer license! Ken identified many of the racers in his pictures, most of whom he knew personally.

Mike Gates thanked Ken for a different and most interesting look at part of our area's past, and presented him with our Certificate of Appreciation.



HAPPY DOLLARS

- \$ **Bob Pasquarelli:** Our granddaughter, who has always studied theater, is a production intern at Glimmerglass Opera, and we went over to see a production yesterday. Forgot that it was also the Baseball Hall of Fame Day in Cooperstown, and had an interesting time navigating the traffic!
- \$ **Mike Gates:** As of October 1st I have been transferred to the East Greenbush branch of Key Bank, and will be located where the First Niagara Bank is now. Key Bank will become a corporate member of Sand Lake Kiwanis and I will be their representative, so I won't be really gone! At home we are being overrun with chipmunks who have wreaked havoc on our gardens. I set a water trap, and by chance heard one being caught. Our tender hearts couldn't watch him die, so I set him free in the woods!
- \$ **Jim Rogers:** My daughter and grandson have conquered another of the Adirondack High Peaks, #39 out of the 46! Last week I had my second eye surgery, and I can now see better than I have been able to in 30 years!
- \$ **John Mulligan:** My granddaughter was competing in the Iron Man Competition at Lake Placid, and was doing well until she got sick. She did complete it though!
- \$ **Bryce Ginther:** Thanks to Ken and his wonderful collection of racing memorabilia!
- \$ **Jim Colabelli:** My dollar is for tonight's program—it was great!
- \$ **Jean Hamlin:** Last week my 12-year-old disabled grandson played in a baseball game at the Miracle League Field in East Greenbush. He's doing very well!
- \$ **Stuart Nippes:** I have a very good friend who was born on the same day I was, even in the same hospital, and we have been close ever since the 6th grade. When we were 16 and had brand new drivers' licenses, we used to take his family's Rambler station wagon and run it around their garage as fast as we could! His name was Kenny Tremont!

Sadly, we had sparse attendance tonight, (they missed a great program), so there were three dinners sold to spare some expense to the Admin Fund. Is everybody on vacation?

DOOR PRIZE, provided by Bryce, was won by **Bob Pasquarelli!**

50/50 for \$18 was won by **Jean Hamlin!**

PROGRESSIVE 50/50, worth \$476.50 this week, will grow some more. **Ron Wagner's** ticket was picked, but he found the wrong King! He picked the **King of Diamonds** from the 27 cards left!



COMING WEEKS.....

AUGUST 1 No Meeting – Valley Cats Baseball Social Outing

PLEASE! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO TAKE NOTES FOR THE SANDPIPER FOR THE NEXT TWO MEETINGS, AUGUST 8 AND AUGUST 15. EDITOR IS HEADED SOUTH!

AUGUST 8 PROGRAM CHAIR: **Bob Loveridge**
 PROGRAM: **Young Children Priority #1 Committee Update**
 GREETER/INVOCATOR: **Skip Patton**
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

AUGUST 15 PROGRAM CHAIR: **Dick Johnsen**
 PROGRAM: **TBA**
 GREETER/INVOCATOR/CERTIFICATE: **Barb Fioravanti**

AUGUST 19 STEAK AND LOBSTER ROAST
 CAMP ROTARY DINING HALL
Help needed at 5 PM!

AUGUST 22 PROGRAM CHAIR: **Bob Loveridge**
 PROGRAM: **TBA**
 GREETER/INVOCATOR/CERTIFICATE: **Jim Hoffman**

SPIRITUAL THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

“I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them.” Thomas Jefferson



Rensselaer County
 Rensselaer County Fair Schaticoke, '21-'50 Demo Derby after war
 Shippey's Clearview, Rt 2 Troy/Eagle Mills' 36-'38
 Ida Mae Spdwy, Rt 9, Schodack '37-'41
 Nassau Victory Spdwy, Fairgrounds 1/4 mile '34-'47
 Troy Spdwy, '52
 Rt 20 Spdwy/Nassau Spdwy, Nassau '50
 East Greenbush Spd Bowl, '55 4 weeks, Schodack Ctr 9 & 20
 Ups and Downs, Rt 9, Schodack '52-'54
 Schodack Ctr Spd Bowl '55
 Burden Lake Spdwy, Sand Lake, '48-'52
 Carroll's Grove, Rt 7, Pittstown behind Kneers, '47-'51/52
 Stage Line, '47-'56, Rt 67 Hoosick, North Bennington
 Rt 66 Spdwy/Hollywood Bowl, Poestenkill '50-'60
 Pine Bowl Spdwy, Snickers Corners Rd, Poestenkill, '48-'66

