

**The Colonel’s Crier**



## **Rotary Club of Slippery Rock**

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**November 2, 2015**

**Upcoming Meetings/Dates of Interest**

Nov. 3 Pancake Day

Nov 4 Rotaract Meeting (8pm)

Nov 14 District Workshop

Nov 18 Rotaract Meeting (8pm)

Dec 2 Rotaract Meeting

# **Members Present:**

Ken Bennett, Todd Erdos, Cathy George, Reg Greenwald, Steve Harding, Ken Harris, Jim Hughes, Judy Hughes, Sharad Joshi, Debbie King, Bob Lanning, Harold McDowell, Mary Messer, Karen Pierce, Walt Powell, Art Richards, Paul Rizza, Warren Smith, Stacey Steele, Paul Suorsa, Doug Turner, Barb Walwik, Lauren Zuschlag

# **Guests Present:**

BK Volkert

**Announcements**

` -Steve Harding introduced his guest, BJ Volkert, Woodman of the World Insurance

-Barbara Walkwik reminded us that November is Rotary Foundation month and she introduced a great new fundraising vehicle- each member took home a blue plastic glass into which they may put change and dollars. Barbara will collect these funds from members and it will go toward the Foundation as a donation! This will be a big help so we aren’t missing EREY contributions at the end of the year. Please take a glass and participate in this easy and fun fundraiser.

-Ken thanked our Rotarians who helped with Highway Cleanup last Saturday 10/31.

-Reg reminded us that tomorrow is Pancake Day! Last minute volunteer signups took place and t shirts were distributed to those who purchased them.

-Reg also announced that we will begin Turkey Roundup donations at today’s meeting. Our club collects money every year at this time for the food pantry. We make the sum contribution to the pantry before the Christmas holiday. Our goal is to collect $500, please make a contribution at one (or all) of our upcoming meetings!

-Ken thanked Bob Lanning for doing a fantastic job running our last two Rotary meetings while he was traveling in Uganda.

**-**Judy Hughes reminded us to sign up for the Rotary One Summit (District Workshop) taking place on November 14. It is a new and exciting agenda this year, which will allow for greater synergy and sharing of ideas with other clubs!.

**-**Ken announced that there will be a Board meeting next Tuesday at which time we hope to finalize our plans for the Winterfest fundraiser- the weekend of events will include a dance marathon (kudos to the Rotaracters on their planning of this!), winter activities and a concert. At the Sunday concert we will also be auctioning off a few items.

**-** Paul Rizza had dinner with the President of Rotary International on September 29. The President gave Paul a beautiful Rotary tie and scarf. Since Paul already has items like these, he decided to present the scarf to Judy Hughes and he auctioned off the tie to the highest bidder at our meeting….Karen Pierce was the winner! Proceeds are going to the Rotary Foundation ☺

**Program: Ken Bennett, Uganda Grant Project Update**

Ken and Judy recently made another journey to Uganda to check on the progress of the grant project there, and they shared an update and several photos from their trip.

Two wells have been built, one of which has electricity and a pump and it will send water to the pump house and subsequent collection points. The other well has a hand pump and it will be used more so in the future.

Solar panels are the main source of energy, however electricity is available and there is a backup diesel generator in the pump house as well. The Ugandan government recently increased electricity charges by 20% so using solar power is a wonderful cost-saving measure.

The Rotary Water Station will be a main collection point for the 800+ villagers, open daily from 6am to 6pm. They may sign up to get a roller to transport the water, and they will attend a training on clean water and sanitation which is being facilitated by Rotary.

There is a new toilet complex at Mustard Seed Academy with two sides (one for men, one for women) each with several toilet stalls and showers. This is such a needed and incredible addition for the Academy! This complex was just being completed while Ken and Judy were there.

Ken and Judy spoke of the incredible spirit of Rotary in Uganda. The club meetings and Rotary gatherings are energetic and well-attended. The Rotarians and villagers alike are welcoming and appreciative of this project.

Many thanks to Ken and Judy for always being such great ambassadors!



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## **Slippery Rock Rotary Club**

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