

**The Colonel’s Crier**



## **Rotary Club of Slippery Rock**

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**December 21, 2015**

# **Members Present:**

Ken Bennett, Ron Fodor, Suzanne Fodor, Jeff Galmarini, Reg Greenwald, Steve Harding, Ken Harris, Kim Hohmann, Val Kefeli, Al Liebling, Bob Lanning, Joe Lofton, Joe Marks, Harold McDowell, Mary Messer, Cheryl Norton, Walt Powell, Art Richards, Paul Rizza, Abby Smith, Warren Smith, Stacey Steele, Paul Suorsa, Doug Turner, Barb Walwik, Lauren Zuschlag

# **Guests Present:**

Terry Steele, Olivia Lanning

**Upcoming Meetings/Dates of Interest**

Dec. 28 Meeting at Compadres Express

Jan. 11 Rotaract President Susan

Jan. 19 Club Social at Red Rock Falls

Jan 29-31 Winter Fest Events

**Announcements**

` -Welcome to our guests Olivia Lanning and Terry Steele. Also welcome home to Rotarian Abby Smith!

-Our 12/28 meeting will be held at Compadres Express, which is located directly across Main Street from NexTier. We will enjoy lunch and then have the manager speak to us about their new business. Compadres is a potential WinterFest sponsor, so we'd like to have a good turnout!

-Recent Rotary conferences have shown that some clubs are exploring a change from their usual meeting time/place each week. They are also holding social gatherings in addition to weekly club meetings. In this interest, Ken reached out to Red Rock Falls restaurant to ask about our club using their private dining room for a social gathering. For a modest $15, Red Rock can offer a great selection of meals! This will be a chance to invite prospective Rotarians and also engage our Rotarians who aren't able to join us for Monday Noon meetings. Our members were in agreement that this is a great idea and will be supported. The first dinner gathering is tentatively planned for Tuesday, January 19 at 5:30pm!

-All are encouraged to attend the SR Development New Year's Eve party. It is a fun and festive gathering and ALSO an opportunity for our silent auction items to be featured! This will be good exposure for WinterFest and our efforts to raise money for PolioPlus and substance abuse programs.

-Speaking of WinterFest...Olivia Lanning has generously donated one of her quilts for the WinterFest silent auction! Olivia came today to show us the beautiful quilt that will be auctioned. Some other silent auction items are: an in-home catered dinner by Giant Eagle, a watercolor paintin, symphony tickets (Pittsburgh and Butler). The ongoing silent auction will begin on New Year's Eve, then we will have an auction opportunity at an event in mid-January (similar to the art show), then the Sunday WinterFest concert. All proceeds benefit PolioPlus and our substance abuse programs.

-Mary Messer reported on a very successful community Christmas shop and toy donations (an effort sponsored by SR Parks and Giant Eagle)! In years past, we collected in Slippery Rock but all of the toys went to children in Butler. This year, the donations went to children right here in Slippery Rock. Mary was overwhelmed with the donations given and the generosity of our community. Jeff Galmarini echoed her sentiment. He said that donated toys have had to be picked up from Giant Eagle several times due to overflow of the donation box- a great problem!

-Joe Marks, who volunteers at Feed My Sheep food pantry, commented that last week the pantry served more than 200 families from this immediate area. There is a great need for us to give to our neighbors, during this season and always.

**Program: Stacey Steele, Classification Speech**

Rotarian Stacey Steele provided a wonderful classification speech today. Stacey was born in Wichita, Kansas. She was a freshman flute major at Wichita State when she met future husband Terry Steele! Stacey and Terry got married on Valentine's Day three years later.

After graduating, Terry's teaching job took them from Kansas to Denton, TX, where Stacey taught at a school for disabled children. Their son Jeremy born there. In 1975 the Steeles moved to Slippery Rock when Terry got a job at SRU! Their son Andy born two years later and they have lived in this community ever since.

In 1983-4 they did a sabbatical back in Denton, TX, during which time Stacey got her master’s degree. In 1988 she too joined the SRU faculty and served 26 years at the University! One of her proudest moments was being honored with the 2007 SRU award for excellence in teaching. Stacey retired from SRU 18 months ago.

In retirement, Stacey enjoys spending time with her family and friends. Recently, she underwent training and received certification as a grief counselor. She just facilitated her first full eight week class. She plans to use those skills toward the Rotary drug & alcohol efforts as well. Many thanks to Stacey for sharing her story today. We are so fortunate to have her in our club!

**Slippery Rock Rotary Club**

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