



# THE AXLE

## Oswego Rotary's Weekly Newsletter



Founded March 29, 1927

**Service Above Self**

[www.oswegorotary.org](http://www.oswegorotary.org)

**Bill Crist, President**

**Shawn Seale, President Elect**

**Dr. David Granoff, Vice President**

**Marlene Brown, 7150 District Governor (E-Club)**

**Paul Scott, Past President**

**Ann Seifried, Treasurer**

**Mark DuFore, Secretary**

**Paul Scott, Ass't. Governor, Area 10 (Oswego)**

**Wilfrid J. Wilkinson, Rotary International President (Trenton, Ontario, Canada)**

**Youth Exchange Student: Willkommen! Doris Skiba, Bavaria, Germany**

### NEXT MEETING

**When: June 17, 2008**

**Where: King Arthur's Steakhouse**

**Program: Student Loan Industry – Asst. Attorney General Carolyn Fast**

### Today's Meeting Date: June 10, 2008

Welcome and Call to Order: 12:15 p.m.

Patriotic Song: Battle Hymn of the Republic (led by Dave Granoff)

The Pledge: Bill Crist

Invocation: Ken Hayes

Second Song: America the Beautiful (led by Dave Granoff)

Current Club Membership: 42

### **Visiting Rotarians:**

None today

### **Honorary Rotarians:**

Harrison Wilde

### **Guests:**

Steve Sayer and Peter Crist (Today's Guest Speaker)

### **Birthdays:**

Bruce Frassinelli (June 2); Wagner Dotto (June 7); Tony Murabito (June 13); Shawn Seale (June 21)

### **Anniversaries:**

Bob Wood (1970); Vern Tryon (1985)

### **Fines/Happy Dollars:**

Ed Caraccioli and Shawn Seale collected a number of happy dollars today.

### **50-50 Raffle:**

Tony Henderson won \$3 in today's raffle but was unsuccessful in drawing the Ace of Spades and claiming the grand jackpot of \$8.

### **Meeting Adjourned:**

1:25 p.m.

**We were pleased to see those of you who attended today's meeting:** Ed Caraccioli, Bill Crist, Diane Dillon, Karen Ferguson, Dave Granoff, Ken Hayes, Tony Henderson, Joe Hutchinson, Tom Ingram, Deana Masuicca, Deb Robillard, Frank Sayer, Viv Sayer, Paul Scott, Shawn Seale, Corte Spencer, Rick Tesoriero, and Dave Welsch.

**Reporting Make-Ups:** If you wish to use Meals on Wheels, a committee meeting, or participation in a Rotary event as a make-up for a missed meeting, please send an email to [Paul Scott](mailto:Paul Scott) with "Make-Up Notification" as the subject and list the missed date, make-up date, and type of make-up.



# THE AXLE

## Oswego Rotary's Weekly Newsletter

Founded March 29, 1927

**Service Above Self**

[www.oswegorotary.org](http://www.oswegorotary.org)



**Job Well Done Recognition Award:** None today

**Rotary Minute:** President Bill Crist presented Frank Sayer with a commemorative clock in recognition of his 60 years of service to Rotary. Frank also received a "Paul Harris Plus 5" award and a lapel pin for his significant contributions to the Rotary Foundation. Congratulations, Frank. It was an honor for all of us present at today's meeting to share this moment with you!

### **Calendar:**

June 23 Changing of the Guard – Wilf Wilkinson, RI President and Mike McGovern, RI VP Elect  
July 1 Changing of the Guard (Oswego Rotary Club) – President-elect Shawn Seale accepts the gavel

### **Announcements:**

- If you haven't yet done so, please consider contributing to the 2008 Rotary Fund at your earliest convenience. All contributions are welcome.
- If you are interested in getting to know Doris Skiba better (our youth exchange student from Germany) and would like to invite her to lunch, dinner, your home, etc., you are encouraged to call her at 343-7683.

**Today's Program:** President Bill Crist introduced Peter Crist, a retired police captain in the Town of Tonawanda who in 2002 helped organize (with four other individuals) an organization named LEAP. LEAP stands for Law Enforcement Against Prohibition. The members of LEAP, which now numbers over 5,000 individuals, believe that in order to save lives and lower the rates of crime, disease, and addiction – as well as to conserve tax dollars – the prohibition against drugs in this country must be abolished and replaced instead by a system of regulation and control. Peter shared with us his view that the U.S.'s "war on drugs" is in fact not a war at all. First of all, he argued, one does not wage war against inanimate objects. Second, when you are truly waging a war you expect it to end at some point. And third, if you decide to stop the war, it's considered a "surrender" – which, of course, makes it even harder to end it. But since we call our present drug policy in this country a war, said Peter, an unfortunate result is that those who oppose it tend to be criticized severely. Peter believes that a better description of our current drug policy (better, that is, than calling it a "war on drugs") is to call it a "prohibition against drugs." The bad thing about this, he claimed, is that prohibiting drugs in this country creates crimes and violence that need not exist. Peter stated that when drugs are prohibited, underground markets are immediately created and the values of these drugs are artificially inflated. And whenever a drug dealer is arrested, someone else immediately takes his or her place. All we are doing by prohibiting drugs, he suggested, is creating job opportunities for even more people willing to take big risks for the chance of earning even greater profits. In other words, fighting the war on drugs is just "stirring the prohibition pot" – and, to remove this pot, we must end drug prohibition. Peter noted that the legalization of alcohol in 1933 helped decrease crime and violence associated with its manufacture and distribution rather than to increase it. The same result occurred, he said, when the "numbers racket" in the U.S. was "legalized" with the advent of the lottery. He believes that legalizing drugs would have a similar effect. Just because a policy is in effect, he noted, doesn't mean it's "good" policy. He pointed to the acceptance of slavery and to the denial of women's right to vote in this country, two policies that have since been abolished. Our present policy on drugs in this country, in a similar fashion, is simply "bad" policy, argued Peter, and should also be abolished. Since we don't seem to be able to solve the drug problem and since we don't seem to be able to get rid of it, we should try to live with it in such a manner that it creates the least amount of harm. Legalizing drugs and then regulating their manufacture and distribution, according to Peter and to LEAP, is the best way to do this. Thanks for a most stimulating and thought-provoking discussion, Peter!



# THE AXLE

## Oswego Rotary's Weekly Newsletter

Founded March 29, 1927  
**Service Above Self**  
[www.oswegorotary.org](http://www.oswegorotary.org)



### ASSIGNMENTS FOR MEALS ON WHEELS AND FRONT DESK/BANNER

St Luke's Meals on Wheels		Reminder for Meals on Wheels	Front Desk and Banner	
<b>Jun 10</b>	Heins/Ingerson	Yellow trays indicate diet meals, and white trays are regular. A list of clients is available at the site that tells you which meal the clients are to receive. If a client tells you they need to cancel a meal, please inform the manager at the site.	<b>Jun 10</b>	Henderson/Seale
<b>Jun 17</b>	Ingerson/Ingram		<b>Jun 17</b>	Fischer/Zeigler
<b>Jun 24</b>	Sunrise Club		<b>Jun 24</b>	Zeigler/Welsch

#### Oswego Rotary Board of Directors

Dir-08: Bruce Frassinelli    Dir-09: Joette Deane    Dir-10: John Fitzgibbons  
 Dir-08: Sabine Ingerson    Dir-09: Tony Henderson    Dir-10: Deana Masucca  
 Dir-08: Vern Tryon    Dir-09: Melanie Trexler    Dir-10: Diane Dillon  
 Dir-08: Randy Zeigler

#### Oswego Rotary Foundation Board of Directors

Dir-08 Paul Scott    Dir-09 Bill Crist    Dir-09 Ann Seifried    Dir-10 Shawn Seale

#### Paul Harris Fellows (Active Members)

+ Benefactor \* Multiple PHF

Edward Caraccioli    Bruce Frassinelli +\*    Anthony Murabito \*    Ann Seifried    Richard Tesoriero \*  
 William Crist    Paul Heins    Victor Oakes \*    Selma Sheridan    Melanie Trexler \*  
 Joette Deane \*    Joseph Hutchinson    Frank Sayer +\*    Richard Shineman +\*    Vernon Tryon \*  
 Mark Dufore \*    H. Peter Kaulfuss    Paul Scott +\*    Corte Spencer \*    Robert Wood \*

#### Rotary Foundation Sustaining Members

William Crist    Bruce Frassinelli    David Granoff    Shawn Seale    Melanie Trexler  
 Diane Dillon    Sabine Ingerson    Victor Oakes    Ann Seifried    Vernon Tryon  
 Mark Dufore    Thomas Ingram    Frank Sayer    Selma Sheridan    Robert Wood  
 Sherwood Dunham    Anthony Murabito    Paul Scott    Richard Shineman    Randy Zeigler

#### Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member:

An individual who personally contributes \$100 or more each year to the Annual Programs Fund. Contributions are cumulative throughout the Rotary year and donors receive a Sustaining Member badge sticker from the club. Contributions count toward Paul Harris Fellow. Our club will donate an additional \$50 for each individual who personally contributes \$50 or more each year to the Annual Programs Fund.

#### Honorary Members of the Rotary Club: 2007-2008

> Sustaining Member \*Multiple PHF

Ram Chaudhari    Sherwood Dunham >    Willard Schum (PHF)  
 Fred Crisafulli (PHF)    Ruth Sayer (PHF)    Harrison Wilde



# THE AXLE

## Oswego Rotary's Weekly Newsletter

Founded March 29, 1927

**Service Above Self**

[www.oswegorotary.org](http://www.oswegorotary.org)



### 2007-2008 PROGRAMS

Date	Rotarian	Program
06/17/08	Bill Crist	Student Loan Industry -- Assistant Attorney General Carolyn Fast
06/24/08	Bill Crist	Ward Vuillemot - Literacy Update South Africa Rotary Trip
07/01/08	Board of Directors	Changing of the Guard

### FALL ROTARY DISTRICT CONFERENCE

**"Make Dreams Real in the Thousand Island Playground."** That's the theme of the 2008 Rotary District 7150 Conference at the beautiful Edgewood Resort in Alexandria Bay.

**September 12-14. Will you be there? Register by June 20 and save \$25. Interested spouses will work on a literary project aimed at benefiting newborns and their moms.**

**Fun and fellowship for all! Download registration forms by clicking on <http://rotarydistrict7150.org/conference.htm>.**