

HORNELL ROTARY HUB
JANUARY 27, 2012

THIS WEEK: Mark Davidson will bring us up to date on the Quest.

LAST WEEK: A double header. Doug Wyant, Hornell School Superintendent, explained some new educational programs that have the teachers excited. There are now “super kids” and “journey” reading programs in grades K-6. With the parents’ involvement, students in grades 7 & 8 are grouped by aptitude, learning ability and achievement. To date the teachers are enthused. Special Ed students in grades 3-8 have improved their achievement scores significantly. There is an anti-bullying program “Olweus” in place that involves support staff as well as teachers, and the latest program involves virtual learning. This interactive learning program has the potential to provide on-line and advanced college credit courses. However, there is a deep concern about the proposed distribution of state aid. With over 50% of our students eligible for free lunches, and our high unemployment rate, we are a needy district. Yet the aid proposed is woefully insufficient, and we cannot participate in special grants for improvement while richer districts can. Doug has been in close touch with our assembly and senate reps. He asks that we remain alert and offer support to insure that we get our fair share.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE: John Zornow and Mark Kreuser from the Newark Club spoke about the Conference titled “Coming Home” which will be held May 18-20 at the Hyatt Regency in Rochester. Meals are included in the room rates. There are many activities, and the two evening meals will be followed by a live band. More details can be found at www.newarkrotary7120.org.

GUESTS: Tom Smith – Canisteo.

PROGRAMS: Please contact Mark Davidson with suggestions for programs.

ADOPT-A-SCHOOL: Lisa Dirlam, Principal of St. Ann’s, has no need beyond our reading program at this time. Paul Shephard volunteered to cover the Kindergarten reading schedule until Karen Smith returns.

TRIPS: PP Mark traveled to Atlanta. Adam DuBois visited Erie, while Lindsie Meese explored the NY Wine and Cheese Culinary Institute in the same locale. Shirley Ferris traveled to Hilton, and Paul Shephard traveled to Myrtle Beach and back.

BIRTHDAYS: Rev. Jerry and Bob Gaffney’s wives celebrated. Ann Fitzpatrick’s niece and Shirley Ferris’ granddaughters were honored. PP Patty’s step-daughter turned 34.

HAPPY NEWS: Rev. Jerry and Pres. Jim’s wives have returned home. Paul Shephard is happy that the officer who stopped him for missing a stop light on his way back from Myrtle Beach at 2am, let him off with a warning.

50:50: Ann Fitzpatrick