



## YOUTH EXCHANGE STUDENT UPDATES

**Meeting Date: May 11, 2017** – Nancy Loughlin shared that the Club will be hosting a student from Brazil at OM and a student from India at WG this year. She and Nancy Ruda will serve as counselors. The Club's current inbound exchange students, Angelika Friis and Moeko Oshima visited the Club to provide updates:

**MOEKO:** Moeko was excited for a recent visit from her grandmother and sister. However, their flight was cancelled due to a snow storm, so they could do not make the full trip to Watkins Glen. Moeko was grateful still to be able to visit with them in Toronto where her sister's previous host-family lives. Moeko's parents are planning to attend her graduation ceremony at Watkins Glen in June! Moeko has visited NYC and was blessed with an extended Spring Break of 18 days. She vacationed in the Outerbanks, NC with Nancy Loughlin and Angelika for a week and then with her host family. She loved the lighthouses! She also enjoyed learning American slang like "Bummer" and "Pick your poison" from her host family during the road trip. ☺ Moeko is thrilled to be attending an American school prom. She has been looking forward to the day since before she left Japan. She is sad to be leaving her family and friends in Schuyler County, but is also looking forward to returning home to her family and friends in Japan. She thanks to Club and the many wonderful people she has met for their support.

**ANGELIKA:** Angelika has enjoyed being part of the OM Track team and practicing shotput. She has also loved the black and white photography class she has been taking. Her current host family is with the Sgrecci family including classmate, Nick. Angelika was happy to have her family visit for 4 days and thanked Nancy Loughlin for hosting a picnic where she was able to introduce her family to the many friends she has made in Schuyler County. Her family said they were thrilled to know Angelika was being cared for by wonderful people. Angelika also enjoyed her spring break in the OBX and couldn't stop taking pictures. She recently attended the OM prom and was honored to be named Prom Queen. She thanks the Club for the many opportunities provided to her and for a terrific experience in Schuyler County.

### NEXT MEETING: MAY 25 (@ GLEN MONTAGE)

PROGRAM: Inner Peace Floats  
SPEAKER: Kathie Notarfonzo  
HOST: Glenda Gephart  
GREETERS: Tony Fraboni



**Noelle:** Noelle Chamberlain is our next outbound exchange student! She will be on her way to Mumbai, India in just a couple months. Noelle comes from a large family and while she loves Odessa-Montour, she recognizes there is little diversity. She is excited to explore a new country, new culture, and meet new people. She has been practicing her language skills with a tutor from Rochester and has been doubling up on her high school courses in order to graduate on time and be an exchange student. She will be applying to colleges over this summer and wants to pursue a career in social work, teaching, or ministry. We wish Noelle safe travels, good luck, and lots of fun on her adventure and look forward to hearing about her experiences.

## CONGRATULATIONS SOTM BRENDAN NEIRA

Nancy Ruda presented the OM SOTM for May, Brenda Neira, son of Janice Arcangeli and Ray Neira, owners of Smoke & Bones Restaurant in Burdett. Brenda is a senior who has overcome many journeys through academia. He is attentive in class, is diligent with his homework, and is always willing to participate in classroom discussion. Brenda is also compassionate. Whether it be a concern for another student's understanding of an assignment or recognizing a student in need, he is quick to ask, "Are you okay?" Brenda works at the family restaurant and at his grandmother's farm on the weekends. He is also a talented gardener, caring for plants at the school's greenhouse for the past two years. Nancy said, "I believe in Brendan and his ability to contribute to the community he lives in." Brendan thanked Nancy for nominating him, his parents for encouraging him, and Rotary for honoring him as Student of the Month.

# MAY 11<sup>TH</sup> CLUB NEWS

**GUESTS:** WG SOTM, Brenda Neira and parents, Janice Arcangeli and Ray Neira; Guest speaker, Noelle Chamberlain (Outbound Exchange Student) and her father, Gary Chamberlain; Inbound Exchange Students, Angelika Friis and Moeko Oshima; Prospective Members, Duke Argetsinger and Kirk Piersman, guests of Glenda Gephart; and John Nguyen

**WHO WON THE RAFFLE?** Nancy Peters

**MONTHLY AUCTION:** May: Judy Phillips, Bill Phoenix, Jim Preston

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**CHICKEN BBQ:** Club will hold its first Chicken BBQ of the year on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at Visions in Watkins Glen. Dinners will be \$9 including potatoes, roll, baked beans and ½ chicken. Donations for bake sale encouraged – this was a great fundraiser for the last sale. No pre-sale tickets.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**TEMPORARY RELOCATION:** Club meetings will be temporarily relocated to the Glen Montage Restaurant while the Elks undergoes renovations. Meetings will be held there on May 25 and June 1.

**ELMIRA CLUB DINNER:** Bill, Glenda, Bridgette, Jim and others attended Elmira/Horsehead's Club Anniversary dinner and saw fellow Rotarian, Shirley Kohena. She wishes her best to all.

**AUCTION BASKET:** Nancy Loughlin is heading the effort to collect gift donations for the District Conference auction. A number of excellent gifts have already been donated by Rotarians and local businesses. If you have a gift certificate to a local restaurant, shop, or attraction, please feel free to bring to Nancy for inclusion in the basket.

**CLUB DIRECTORY:** Please see Bridgette if you have any updates for the Club Membership Directory.

**THANK YOU FOR THE MAKEUPS:** Glenda Gephart, Bill Phoenix, Nancy Loughlin, Bridgette Stewart, Mike Learn

**THOSE WE MISSED:** Michelle Benjamin, Beth DeCaro, Rich Greenberger, Matt Hayden, Dean Hillyard, Jim Howell, Brian Kenney, Mike Learn, Gary Mead, Dennis Morris, Kevin Murphy, Judy Phillips, Jeff Schultz, Jim Somerville, Kristine Somerville, Tom Weideman, Tom Clifford, Ginny Eaton, Dave Ryan, Dave Sidle

## CELEBRATIONS AND CONFESSIONS:

**Chris Burns:** Congratulations SOTM, Welcome returning Rotarians, Welcome guests

**Glenda Gephart:** Welcome SOTM, Donations are being accepted for FOWL Book Sale at The Arc

**Nancy Ruda:** SOTM, Missed meeting

**Jim Chedzoy:** SOTM, Glad to be back!

**Stan Beaver:** SOTM and Family

**Stewart McDivitt:** SOTM and his mother, my secretary

**Jim Preston:** Missed meeting

**Rebekah Carroll:** SOTM

**Don Stocum:** SOTM

**Jim Guild:** SOTM

**Nancy Loughlin:** SOTM; when I substitute teach, Brendan always keeps me on track

**Bridgette Stewart:** SOTM and Family; Great dinner with the Elmira Club

**JC Argetsinger:** SOTM, Thanks to Carl for remind him its casual Thursday

**Judy Cherry:** SOTM, Congrats to Nancy Peters and Crystal Chords; Missed meeting

**John Nguyen:** SOTM, Thank you for welcoming me

**Michele Ray:** SOTM, Missing next week for Cancun vacation

**Meredith Williams:** SOTM

**Bill Phoenix:** SOTM

**Holly Baker:** Missed meeting and late with last week's bulletin

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

### SUSTAINABLE PROJECTS EARN TOP ROTARACT HONORS

The 2017 Rotaract Outstanding Project Award recognized the Rotaract Club of the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka, for launching a three-year project to improve lives in the rural community of Ranugalla. The club, which represents Rotary District 3220 (Sri Lanka), hopes to empower residents through sustainable education and economic development initiatives.

During its first year, the club opened a library and science lab for the local school and helped students prepare for college entrance exams and careers. It also targeted infrastructure, bringing clean water into homes and building bridges to link neighborhoods flooded during the rainy season. To stimulate economic growth, the club opened a weaving cooperative for female entrepreneurs.

"Rather than initiating a project to donate materials, we thought a project to address all the issues in the village would be much more beneficial to all," says Chamal Kuruppu, president of the University of Moratuwa Rotaract club.

