



THE RISE OF TED MARKS

PRESENTED BY: TED MARKS

HOST: STEWART MCDIVITT

Meeting Date: November 2, 2017 – Ted Marks, no stranger to our Club, was recently featured in a Mountain Home Magazine cover story – chronicling his childhood, business ventures, and impact on the Finger Lakes community. No doubt an interesting man who has led an adventurous life.

Ted grew up in Elmira and his family had a summer home on Seneca Lake. Ted studied business and accounting in Massachusetts and joked that the best he got out of the degree was to teach him why he is losing money. Accounting just wasn't for Ted. What he really wanted, was to be his own boss. He owned some of his own businesses – Captain Palmer's Boat Rides before it was sold to the Simiele family; Image Packaging, which was lost in the flood of 1972, Horwitz Paper and Packaging, and Bookmarks, a bookstore on Market Street in Corning. Ted also ran the Corning Area Chamber of Commerce briefly. Ted likes to say he also owned Watkins Glen International for a few minutes – during an auction – right before the bank came in with a \$1.4 million bid. Too bad!

When asked what he liked best, Ted responded that Bookmarks was wonderful because of the kids he hired. He gave youth an opportunity to learn valuable work skills, and took chances on many kids that others would not. In the MH magazine article he added, some of those kids wrote letters to him later thanking him for the opportunity and the help he provided, including Ron, one of Ted's hires. Ron now operates the Corning Community College bookstore.

NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 16

PROGRAM: Special Guest Program

SPEAKER:

HOST:

GREETER: Glenda Gephart



Ted entered the wine business when his daughter married into the wine-making Hazlitt family. Ted considered retiring at that time in his life, but instead found himself making wine at Atwater, helping his daughter and son-in-law take off with a new business.

Between the two of them, Ted and his wife Mary Ann have 7 daughters together and 15 grandchildren. The children are a bit scattered – Syracuse, Rochester, New Hampshire, etc. But some are still local and involved in the growth of the area. Daughter Katie is now running Graft wine + cider bar on Franklin Street.

Ted still enjoys opportunities through the winery to work with young people in our community, instilling a strong work ethic, and making a positive impact on their lives. He remarked in the Mountain Home Magazine article that though the winery is for sale, he is adamant that his employees be well taken care of by the next possible owner.

Thanks for sharing with us, Ted!

NOVEMBER 2ND CLUB NEWS

GUESTS: Our presenter, Ted Marks, guest of Stewart McDivitt

RAFFLE WINNER: Jim Guild

AUCTION:

JC Argetsinger donated a bottle of Ravines wine made from the grapes from the land where Argetsingers live. The Vintage 2012 Riesling was won by Nancy Loughlin. Also from JC – a vintage copy of a Grand Prix Festival program won by Doug Hagin. Thank you JC, Nancy, and Doug and to Matt Hayden for being our auctioneer.

NOVEMBER: Jim Bacalles, Holy Baker, Stan Beaver

UPCOMING EVENTS:

AMBA: November 4 at Watkins Glen High School gymnasium. A volunteer sign-up sheet is going around. Chair: Jennifer Sweet.

SWINGIN ON SENECA SHORES: November 11 at Community Center in Watkins Glen. Fundraising event for Polio Plus. Hepcats band will provide music for dancing and entertainment. Volunteer sign-up going around for help and food donations. John King is chair of the event but is in need of support on a planning committee. Each club member is encouraged to sell at least 4 tickets. Please see John if you can assist.

SENECA VIEW VISIT: Next group visit to Seneca View is scheduled for November 16.

EASTERN CITIES DINNER: Will be held on December 6, 5 – 6:30 PM. There is a sign up sheet going around. Please sign up if you plan to attend.

HOLIDAY CONCERT: December 2 at Watkins Glen High School. More details to follow.

CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY: The Club's Christmas Party will be held at Seneca Lodge on Thursday, December 21. There will be no meeting that day.

OTHER:

FROM JIM GUILD: Jim will be on a mission trip through his church to Cuba. He will be spending his time with children who have developmental and physical disabilities. Can't wait to hear about your trip Jim!

THOSE WE MISSED: Carl Blowers, Steven Briggs, Beth DeCaro, Tony Fraboni, Brain Kenney, Judy Keough, John King, Dennis Morris, Kevin Murphy, Terri Orbin, Nancy Peters, Bill Phoenix, Nancy Ruda, Jeff Schultz, Kristine Somerville, Bridgette Stewart, Don Stocum, Lindsay Wickham, Ken Wilson, Nan Woodworth, Ken Bell, Jim Chedzoy, Tom Clifford, Ginny Eaton, Charlie Haeffner, Dave Ryan, Dave Sidle

THANK YOU FOR THE MAKEUPS: NA

CELEBRATIONS AND CONFESSIONS:

Glenda Gephart: Sorry for being out of town during AMBA

Jim Guild: Missed meeting

Jim Somerville: Missed meeting

Dena Carrigan: Missed meeting, son got married over the weekend and he and his wife moved into their new house

Duke Argetsinger: Thank you to volunteers for Roadside Cleanup

Charlie Cole: Won't make it for Hepcats concert; Lake Country Players will perform that weekend at Watkins Glen High School. Sorry to Ted Marks for having to leave early.

Michel Ray: Brother has earned title of Senior Master Sargent after 18 years of service.

Jim Howell: Please be sure to get out and VOTE on Election Day!

Michelle Benjamin: Get your tickets for November Splendor!

Matt Hayden: Missed meeting, won't make it to AMBA – family vacation

ROTARY HELPS WILDFIRE VICTIMS

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL NEWS | (ARTICLE FROM ROTARY.ORG)

Rotary clubs and the Rotary Foundation are helping victims of deadly wildfires in California.

More than 220,000 acres have been scorched and more than 40 people have been confirmed dead.

"The magnitude of the devastation that is occurring in the North Bay and Wine County is vast and far-reaching. The recovery and rebuild is going to be a long process but we are confident that we can lead the way in bringing these communities back. Rotarians know how to get things done and won't stop until we reach the finish line," said Bob Rogers, Rotary 5130 District Governor.

The Rotary Foundation has set up a special fund to collect donations. You can contribute here to The Northern California Fire Recovery Fund #615.

If you have questions about how you can help, contact relief@rotary.org.

