

Watkins-Montour Rotary Club

Members of the Watkins-Montour Rotary Club have for almost 90 years been finding ways to **make Schuyler County a better place** for their family, friends and neighbors.

Through the far-reaching channels of Rotary International, Watkins-Montour Rotarians extend their efforts around the globe.

The Club was **organized in 1921**, sponsored by the Elmira Rotary Club. Some 300 people reportedly attended the charter meeting, and "from its inception, the Club seems to have been blessed with friendship and fellowship, but it soon demonstrated its strength in worthwhile projects," according to the Club's history.

The Club's approximately 70 members are **proud of their involvement** in the community of Schuyler County and their part in Rotary efforts on an international scale.

Outstanding speakers at weekly meetings keep members informed of **current issues and needs** in the region, often leading to further involvement in service projects.

One thing that's special about our Club is the ratio of the size of the Club

to the community. No other Club has the membership that we do for the size of our community. Plus we're a diverse group, drawing members from a wide range of ages and professions.

The Club sponsors very active Interact Clubs – the **youth service** organization of Rotary – at both Schuyler County high schools. For years, the Club annually has hosted at least one exchange student. The Club provides readers in local elementary school classes and distributes well-appreciated dictionaries in the schools.

Watkins-Montour Rotarians host a one-day summer visit by the young people of **Camp STAR**, assisted by volunteers from local organizations such as the Watkins Glen Fire Department. They join other area Rotarians each year volunteering at the LPGA in Corning.

Fund-raising runs the gamut from an antiques show to a very popular health screening. One of the Club's most creative fund-raisers is taking on clean-up duty at a noted dog show in nearby Seneca County. Rotarians operate a popular gaming booth at the annual Schuyler County Italian-American

Festival and assist the Montour Falls Fire Department at the food booth at that department's annual festival.

We're very visible in our community, and we're able to contribute a lot of donations back to our community.

Recipients of Rotary Club assistance include students attending **Boys State** and senior scholarship winners, local libraries, Schuyler Hospital, The Arc of Schuyler County and the **Food Bank** of the Southern Tier.

The Club meets each Thursday at the Watkins Glen Elks Lodge on Route 14 at 12:10 p.m.

We're a very fun Club. People who come to our meetings really enjoy the fellowship.

For more information about the Watkins-Montour Rotary Club, contact the Club via e-mail at watkinsmontourrotary@yahoo.com.

