

Cortland Breakfast Rotary

The Friendliest Club in the District! Nov. 29, 2023



Rotary 

Club of
Cortland Breakfast
New York

Chartered on the 26th of October, 1990

THE FOUR-WAY TEST
of the things we think, say or do

first...

Is it the **TRUTH?**

second...

Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?

third...

**&
?**

**JOHN MCNERNEY,
JACOB RIVERS**

**TOWN OF CORTLANDVILLE
PARKS AND RECREATION**

John McNerney and Jacob Rivers explained to us the operations and benefits of the Gutches Lumber Sports Complex.

The Cortlandville Parks and Recreation Department has been working since 2016 to create a recreational/social center, and traded nine acres it owned for the 100 acres that Gutches Lumber donated. They have developed one of the few artificial turf baseball/softballfields in New York State, which has four fields that have hosted teams competing in baseball and softball, plus practices in the sports of football and lacrosse. It has a playground and pavilion, a pavilion that has been used for reunions, parties, dog training and weddings.

It draws teams mainly from a four hour radius of Cortland, with some teams competing from Colorado and Texas. It has drawn over 100 high school baseball and softball teams, 40 NCAA college baseball playoff games, and over 80 college club baseball games.

One of the spin offs of the Gutches Lumber Sports Complex is the occupancy of the local hotels and eating establishments, which John is always trying to steer the visiting teams to. These efforts helped the Cortland County occupancy tax to increase \$200,000 in 2023.

John also explained how the Prep Baseball Report—PBR New York—is using the Sports Complex to identify the top 400 high school players in the state.

John and Jacob covered how they are hosting girls softball tournaments and strive for gender equality. The next chapter includes the installation of offices, a concession stand, and lavatories; they are also deciding how to develop the rest of the 100 acres.

Thank you John and Jacob for speaking to our Club, and for your efforts for our community!

John McNerney

Part-Time Town of Cortlandville Parks & Recreation Director
Former City of Cortland Youth Bureau Director

I am currently Director of the Town of Cortlandville Parks & Recreation Department over seeing the towns park system and manager of Gutches Lumber Sports Complex. A proud Graduate of Cortland State where I was inspired to pursue a career in Athletics and Recreation Administration.

Education: SUNY at Cortland - BS in Recreation Management

Employment: IBM Corporate Fitness -1987-1988
City of Cortland Recreation Supervisor - 1989 - 1999
City of Cortland Youth Bureau Director - 1999 - 2021
Various Coaching positions- SUNY Cortland, Homer HS, Tully HS

Goals: Parks and Recreation plays a important role in quality of life and more importantly a critical role in youth development.

Current or Past Affiliations: Board Member NYS Parks & Recreation Society & NRPA
Chairman & Board Member of Cortland Regional Sports Council
Board Member of Crown City Little League
Board Member of JM McDonald Sports Complex
Board Member of Governor Youth Sports Council
Gold Metcalf Scholarship Board
Board member of Update Lacrosse Association
TC3 Recreation Degree Advisory Committee
National Parks and Recreation CPO



John and family currently resides in Tully, NY. He enjoys spending time at his family's Skaneateles Lake Camp, Golfing, Running and Avid Cuse and Bills fan.

President.

Don Richards

Front Desk.

Mike Catalano, Dianne Higgins

Thought for the Day.

Matt Banazek

Guests.

John McNerney, Jacob Rivers, Ariel Corl, Noah Bech

Happy Birthday!

Mark Roberts

Rotary Anniversary.

Matt McSherry, Eric Comtois

Raffle.

Conrad Janke

Attendance.

26 + 3 Zoom



1ST ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF ARIEL CORL. MATT BANAZEK LET US KNOW THAT NEXT WEEK WILL BE THE ORIENTATION FOR ARIEL.

KAREN DEWITT TOLD US THAT SHE WAS INVOLVED WITH INTERVIEWING OUTBOUND YOUTH EXCHANGE STUDENTS. SHE ALSO PASSED AROUND THE HAT TO PROVIDE NOAH BECH SPENDING MONEY FOR HIS TRIP TO NYC.

DIANNE HIGGINS INFORMED US THAT NEXT WEEK WILL BE THE FIRST BALLOTING FOR NEXT YEARS BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

MIKE SHAFER WILL NEED 8:VOLUNTEERS ON DECEMBER 15 AT LOAVES AND FISHES. MIKE ALSO PROPOSED THAT ZOOMERS CAN VOTE FOR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, WHICH PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

CONRAD JANKE IS ALSO LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE SALVATION ARMY DOLLAR DROP ON DECEMBER 16. AT PRESS TIME 10 OF THE 12 SLOTS HAVE BEEN FILLED.

Don Richards—thankful fo his vacation in Florida, and for our Club's work at the Center for the Arts;

Mike Shafer—for Thanksgiving;

Conrad Janke—Thanksgiving in Raleigh with his daughter, and skin tips from Ariel Corl;

Karen Dewitt—for Thanksgiving saw her sister from Colorado;

Mark Roberts—celebrating his birthday and helping everyone use the microphone;

Matt Banazek congratulated Glenn Reisweber for the Center's Clean Up, and for Thanksgiving;

Lee Schaff shared the news that it was 53 degrees in Sanibel, FL.



Crutches for Africa



Richard Comins, our Speaker on October 12, 2022, picked up crutches that our Club gathered up for Crutches for Africa, stored by Nick Cinquanti.

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The Salvation Army

2023 CHRISTMAS EFFORT
DOLLAR DROP
Saturday, December 16, 2023

SPEEDWAY @ TOMPKINS/BROADWAY
10 AM - 4 PM
SIGN UP SHEET

10-12 *Chuck Feiszli*

10-12 *MIKE CATALANO*

12-2 Conrad Janke

12-2 *BOB MARTIN*

2-4

2-4

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2023 CHRISTMAS EFFORT
DOLLAR DROP
Saturday, December 16, 2023

MAIN/GROTON
10 AM - 4 PM
SIGN UP SHEET

10-12 Interact Club

10-12 Interact Club

12-2 *JERRY BOYAN*

12-2 *MIKE SHAFER*

2-4 Jackie Burke

2-4 Interact Club

C F F F E E

≡ WITH A COP ≡

Common Grounds


December 1st 2023 - 9-11am



On January 10, 2024, Chief Paul Sandy will be our Club's Speaker, explaining the Police Force's drone. He will also let us know when and where February's Coffee with a Cop will be.

Are
you a
RotaryHero ?



Rotary 

Evan B.