

Cortland

March 2, 2022

BREAKFAST ROTARY

SHERIFF
MARK HELMS

Cortland County
Sheriff Dept.



MARK HELMS HAS BEEN IN LAW ENFORCEMENT SINCE 1987, AND HAS BEEN IN THE SHERIFF DEPARTMENT SINCE 2016. THE CORTLAND COUNTY SHERIFF IS AN ELECTED POSITION, AND HAS THREE DIVISIONS: CORRECTIONS DIVISION, CIVIL DIVISION, AND ROAD PATROL DIVISION.

MARK EXPLAINED TO US THE FUNCTIONS OF EACH DIVISION, AND SOME OF THE CHALLENGES HE FACES. THE SHERIFF DEPARTMENT CURRENTLY HAS 51 OFFICERS, AND IS SHORT 12 OFFICERS. THE JAIL HAS 89 BEDS, BUT IS NOT SET UP THE BEST WAY, ESPECIALLY WITH COVID AND NO CONTACT VISITS. HE EXPLAINED THE CENTRAL ARRAIGNMENT PLAN, AND THAT OF THE 615 PEOPLE BROUGHT TO THE JAIL LAST YEAR, 300 WERE ADMITTED. MARK HAS CONCERNS ABOUT BAIL REFORM, SOME GOOD, SOME BAD; HE HAS ENCOUNTERED A LOT OF WHAT HE TERMS "CATCH AND RELEASE".

MARK VISITS THE JAIL JUST ABOUT EVERY DAY, AND WITH HIS OFFICERS SPENDS A LOT OF TIME IN SCHOOLS AND IN TRAINING DRIVERS OF AUTOS, BOATS, AND SNOWMOBILES. WE ARE NOT ONLY FORTUNATE TO HAVE MARK AS A MEMBER OF OUR CLUB, BUT AS AN IMPORTANT MEMBER OF OUR COMMUNITY!

Prez for the day.

Front Desk.

Invocation.

50-50.

Happy Anniversary!

Conrad Janke

Don Ferris

Ed Finkbeiner

Glenn Reisweber

Mike Catalano

April 19th—Cortland Elks, 5pm cocktails, 6pm dinner—joint meeting with the Cortland Noon Rotary! (No meeting on April

ANNOUNCEMENT

This is the first of two announcements about the proposed membership of **Eden Harrington-Hall**.

From the District Newsletter—**Dryden Rotary** is having a Murder Mystery on April 2.

We are having a joint meeting with the Noon Rotary on April 19 at the Cortland Elks Club, 5PM cocktails, 6pm dinner.

The District Conference will be in Fairport on April 29, 30, May 1; the theme is "Rotary and Our Environment".

We were sent emails about District Reorganization (see attached). **DG Evan Kurtz** would like a reply by March 30.

Jeffrey Smith sent an email about the District Tree Program (also attached).

Don Richards reported at the Board meeting that the Noon Club will be hosting a **Concert for Ukraine**, and asked if we would like to participate.

Jeremy Boylan—Spring Cleanup will be in April, more details to come.



Ed Finkbeiner—working with **Eric Comtois** on **RYLA**, will be selecting a Seven Valley student for the Conference.

Conrad Janke—for Cortland State Men's Hockey team winning its first playoff game since 2007; has tickets for the Corn Ducky Derby.

Jeremy Boylan—for **Mark Helms** as our Speaker, Homer Wrestling team is State Champs!

TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES

NO ZOOM THIS WEEK!

Redistricting in Our Changing Rotary World

As Rotary clubs around the world evolve, the relationship and structure of Districts in various regions is continually assessed. In our District, and those around us, there is ongoing concern about maintaining the minimum number of members. Locally driving changes that may result from this assessment gives us more control of our future. Your input in the process is requested.

Background:

Over that last several years Rotary Districts in the Upstate NY region have been losing members. Rotary International requires that a District maintain a membership of over 1,100 and if they fall below that they are required to submit a written recovery plan to RI and then successfully execute it. If they do not raise their membership number they are merged with adjoining Districts.

While 7170 is still above this limit we are close enough to be concerned. Four of the five Districts that border 7170 are either in danger of being, or are going to be, redistricted so we will be affected regardless of our numbers. The Syracuse (7150) and Albany regions (7190) are both under 1,000 members and have been told they will be part of a redistricting in the near future.

Current status:

Our District leadership has been discussing the situation with the leadership of both of these Districts as well as Zone leaders. We believe it is in our best interest to present our own redistricting plan to Rotary International before a plan is determined from the RI level. A draft of a committee structure for developing and executing a plan has been reviewed and approved by the Governor tracks of all three Districts as well as by RI Zone Director Valarie Wafer and RI Zone Director Elect Drew Kessler.

We expect to develop a plan that would form two new Districts from the existing three. The first phase of the work will be led by the current DG, DGE, and DGN from each District as well as a member at large from each. This committee of 12 Rotarians (4 from each of 3 Districts) will determine how the clubs will be grouped into the proposed new Districts and will establish subcommittees that will work on the second phase. This work begins 01 January 2022 with completion targeted for 30 June 2022.

During the Rotary year 22-23 the second phase will see the subcommittees, comprised of Rotarians with specific knowledge and experience, addressing the many details that need to be worked out to successfully merge. Details such as how to handle the Youth Exchange Programs, various District committees, the DG tracks, District funds (both DDF and general), and so on. At this point it is expected that the merger will take place 01 July 2023

Next steps: Your Input Is Requested

Your district leaders believe this general plan is in the best interest of our shared futures, however nothing is set in stone and the real work is just beginning. Before we go further, we need to hear from the Rotarians of District 7170. Our 05 December '*Chat with the DG Track*' Zoom call (see our District "Upcoming Events" for the link) will be devoted to answering questions and, if needed, we can have additional Zoom chats. If you can't make the Zoom call, or prefer to connect with me directly, send your comments, concerns, or suggestions to DG Evan via email (emkurtz56@gmail.com) or, if you would rather, call 607-423-2693. I look forward to hearing your thoughts as we design the future of our district.

Fellow District 7170 Rotarian,

I would like to see if your Rotary Club would like to take part in a program to plant historic trees in a local park or schoolyard in your own community! The efforts are aimed to kindle a spark in the minds of children, who would then have a chance to see, and learn about (and eventually touch!) something that has a direct connection to some of the great people of American history or major historical event.

I am contacting all the Rotary Clubs in our District to offer the opportunity to acquire historic sapling trees certified to be true direct descendants of historic witness trees offered by **Americanheritagetrees.org**, a 501 (c) (3) organization dedicated to the preservation of historic trees. I have worked with them in the past and find them to be very reputable. I have personally toured their facility and purchased trees for my Nimmonsburg Rotary Club, which are now planted in our Port Dickinson Community Park. Possibly your Rotary Club would like to purchase one or two historic trees for a park or schoolyard in your own community. Certificates of authenticity accompany each tree.

American Heritage Trees has authenticated trees with direct connections to **Henry David Thoreau** and come from **Walden Woods at Walden Pond**; the Sycamore **Moon Tree** (offspring from seeds taken to the Moon on Apollo 14 in 1971); **Mark Twain** Bur Oak from a 350+ year old tree by the cave entrance in Hannibal, Missouri often mentioned by Twain in his books and explored by him as a young boy; the **George Washington/Mt. Vernon** Sycamore; the **William Faulkner** white oak from his Mississippi home, Rowan Oak; and others. The **Robert Frost** birch from his Franconia, New Hampshire home where he wrote the poem "Birches" in 1915, and the **George Washington** Ironwood/Hornbeam from Mr. Vernon are also available. Same for trees grown from seeds collected at the home of **Franklin Roosevelt** at the *Little White House* in Warm Springs, Georgia, WWI hero **Sergeant Alvin York**, **Edgar Allan Poe**, and the Kansas birthplace of **Amelia Earhart**. The **Space Shuttle** tree's parent sprouted in space on one of the space missions.

The 2022 Menu of Historic Trees Available in Our Hardiness Zone

Robert Frost
Franklin Roosevelt Mark Twain
Mark Twain
Henry David Thoreau Edgar Allan Poe
Geo. Washington Space Shuttle
Moon Seedling Sergeant Alvin York William Faulkner Amelia Earhart

Birch
Black Oak Bur Oak Sycamore Red Maple Hackberry Sycamore Sweet Gum Sycamore Tulip Poplar White Oak
Sugar Maple

\$90, \$125
\$125, \$150
\$90, \$125, \$150 \$125, \$150
\$90, \$125, \$150 \$70, \$150
\$70, \$150
\$150
\$125, \$150
\$90, \$125, \$150 \$70
\$70