

Reporting Meeting of February 13, 2017

Calendar of Events

Last Week: 2/6: Social Meeting at the Cock 'n Bull, Galway
This Week: 2/13: Keni Mtalika Banda, Banda Bola Sports Foundation
Next Week: 2/20: No meeting, President's Day
Coming Up: 2/27: TBD
Attendance: Rotarians: 24 Guests: 2
Invocation: Dan Stec
Note: Regular meetings are held Monday Evenings at 6:00 PM in the William E. Sewell Memorial Room at the Ballston Town Hall.
Please give suggestions for future programs to Jon Costolo.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Annual dinner at SCCC will be 3/20/17; Menu and pricing to be emailed to members.
- Silas reviewed the plan for the club's participation in the Community Library Mini-Golf Fundraiser 2/24-25. On Friday night 2/24 a 4 person team of Rotarians will square off against teams from the BHBLBPA. \$5 pp (\$20 per team). Volunteers to contact Silas. *Our golf reputation is at stake!*
- Mike Brewster collected Happy Dollars with several members happy that their snow blowers were up to the task of clearing up after the Sunday storm.



February Set Up: S. Schrader, R. Schimpf, B. Wehrle Clean Up: P. Sawyer, A. Davis, D. Stec

Service Above Self

BANDA BOLAS SPORTS FOUNDATION

Keni Mtalika of the Niskayuna Rotary presented a program outlining the *Banda Bola Sports Foundation*, which he created to help children in his home country of Malawi. Education, which is not mandatory, is poorly funded with very limited supplies and few teachers. The goal of the Foundation is to impact children's lives positively through sports and education. The Foundation recently added a treasurer to formalize financial aspects.



Keni outlined his life's journey from Malawi to the US and back, while coaching soccer at the collegiate level. He now devotes his fundraising efforts in the US 5 months a year, then returning to Malawi to educate the local government members and villagers about the programs. His extended family is also involved.

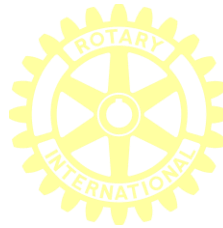
The Chituka (his home village) Village Project promotes education for both girls and boys. It is particularly important for girls, as the tradition is to marry and have children at a young age. Boys are often kept out of school to help the father provide for the family. The project runs afternoon programs, which hopefully will entice children to attend school in the morning. Other projects include soccer clinics, and reading workshops..

Keni has collected donations from local soccer clubs as well as Emma Willard School and Capital District Rotary Club. Donations of soccer balls, shoes, sneakers, clothing, and school supplies as well as monetary donations are accepted. Basic health supplies are also collected. The donations are shipped to Malawi and distributed to the local community.

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