

## Reporting Meeting of July 31, 2017

### Calendar of Events

**Last Week:** July 31 Friends of the Kayadeross, Josh Ness  
**This Week:** Aug 7 BOD meeting and Apple Run Mailing  
**Next Week:** Aug 14 DG Fred Daniel's Visit  
**Coming Up:** Aug 21 Pine View Cemetery Work Night 5:00PM  
Aug 28 Picnic at the Whettens

**Attendance:** Rotarians: 19 Guests: 1

**Invocation:** Jon Costolo

**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 Beth Brownell.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- President Jon Costolo led us in the pledge, Bob Youmans in America the Beautiful, while Jon Costolo provided a thoughtful invocation.
- Mary Anderson showed us the TIB solicitation card which was sent to all Burnt Hills mail routes. The card features a painting by Val Mosier.
- Beth Brownell reported on the TIB weeding party last Saturday. She encouraged us to weed on our own at the intersection of Rt. 50 when the spirit moved us.
- Happy Dollars were collected by Pete Parker

### FRIENDS OF THE KADEROSS



Beth Bownell introduced our speaker, Joshua Ness, who is VP and board member of Friends of the Kaydeross (FoK) as well as an Associate Professor of Biology at Skidmore College. FoK is a volunteer, not-for-profit organization established in March 2004 to protect the Kayaderosseras Creek and its watershed in Saratoga County. Its purposes are conservation, education, and recreation by building collaboration between groups that use the Kayadeross. The group seeks to identify ways it can serve the communities.

The goals are: (1) to form partnerships with other groups, watershed land owners and public and private users of the Kayadeross to promote low-impact

recreational use of the creek, (2) promote conservation by improving water quality and aquatic habitat by reducing erosion, sedimentation, pollution & littering, (3) to promote individual and municipal stewardship through education, communication and program coordination.

Each year in April, members scout the creek for paddling hazards. They cut and remove branches and logs that impede canoe/kayak travel, while leaving overhanging vegetation for fish cover and shade. They remove all the trash that they can fit in their boats. In May and November they perform a creek cleanup day. The goal is to make the creek safe and comfortable for both kids & adults.

FoK members sponsor Meet the Creek events at different locations which are designed to introduce, enlighten and enhance our experience and appreciation of this resource. There are nature walks which are fun ways to learn about the creek and its ecosystem, birdsong identification, plants, steam geology and much more.

In 2010 they initiated a long-term brook trout stocking program hoping to establish a native population of "brookies" in the upper reaches of the creek where the water is cooler, cleaner and faster, and thus more conducive to year-round survival and reproduction. Each year in April and November, with the help of Avery's Fish Hatchery, they release hundreds of healthy adult fish - mostly for the enjoyment of sport fishing - with the hope that some will survive. The April event ends with a Family Fun Fish Stocking at Kelley Park in Ballston Spa, open to the public. You are encouraged to bring your own bucket and each child gets their very own trout to carry to the shore and release.

The group is involved in protecting eight parks/properties:

- (1) Cottrell Harrington Park
- (2) Boice Family Park in Milton
- (3) Kelly Park in Ballston Spa
- (4) Gray's Crossing on North Line Road
- (5) Driscoll Road Landing
- (6) Trieble Park
- (7) Camp Boy Haven (headwaters of the Kayadeross)
- (8) Crandall Property (42 acres recently donated)



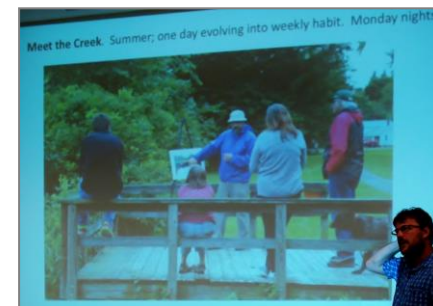
Pres. Jon presents the Rotary Mug

Josh concluded by encouraging us to enjoy the Kayadeross by participating in their action days, becoming a park steward, becoming a FoK member and sharing with your friends your enthusiasm about the activities of the Friends of the Kayadeross. Visit their web site: [kayadeross.org/index.html](http://kayadeross.org/index.html) for more information.

*Reported by Pete Parker*

**SERVICE ABOVE SELF**

Set Up: Ken Crotty, Bill Lonergan, Peter Parker, Garry Morrow Clean Up: Paul Lewandowski, Steve Caine, and Fred Bailey





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