

## Reporting Meeting of July 24, 2017

### Calendar of Events

**Last Week:** July 24 Charlton School Picnic

**This Week:** July 31 Friends of the Kaydeross, Josh Ness

**Next Week:** Aug 7 BOD meeting and Apple Run Mailing

**Coming Up:** July 29 (Sat.) Weeding at Intersection Rt. 50  
Aug 14 DG Fred Daniel's Visit

**Attendance:** Rotarians: 25 Guests: 8

**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 Beth Brownell.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- President Jon Costolo led us in the pledge, Bob Youmans in America the Beautiful, while Dan Stec provided a thoughtful invocation.
- Jon reminded us that on the evening of July 27 the Valley Cats will be honoring Rotarians, and specifically Rotarians of the Year.
- Beth Brownell encouraged as many as possible to support weeding this coming Saturday, July 29, at the intersection of Rt. 50 and Lakehill Road.
- An excellent meal was served of ribs, and all the appropriate fixings.

### Charlton School Update

Charlton School Board member, our own Mike Brewster, introduced The Charlton School Executive Director, Alex Capo. Alex has been in the job for about a year, replacing Don Marshall. He previously was the Director of Therapeutic Services at Charlton School, and in that capacity, he did a tremendous job of leading a campaign to increase the effective integration of the institution's therapeutic, residential and educational services

Alex provided a very clear and comprehensive update covering changes in the school's census, clientele and programs. He noted while students used to be referred to Charlton almost exclusively from the Department of Social Services (DSS), all referrals now come from public



school districts. While every student is unique, each one now most commonly comes to the school because they have not been able to thrive adequately in any other setting due to some physiological / psychological issue. While students used to come mainly from the Capital District region they now come from as far away as Long Island. Student access from Pennsylvania and Vermont is also being explored. The census is currently 25 residential students and 13 day-only students. Day students come from as far away as Hudson and Fort Anne.

One of the things that make Charlton unique is its emphasis on providing programs tailored to specifically meet the individual needs of each student. Charlton's tailored educational, residential, therapeutic, expressive arts and equine programs provide a milieu of educational, physiological and enriching means to best help each child. The school is constantly working to improve and expand the capabilities of each program. Alex noted that at the present time the school wants to maintain a relatively small census so they can continue to target the specific needs of each student.

During the past year, the school's staff has been increased to provide an increased focus on and supervision for Day Students, and a night nurse for enhanced health and safety. Alex concluded his presentation by providing a brief description of the school's scholarship program and the effort being made to integrate able students into several classes at BHBL High School.

Please refer to The Charlton School's informative and beautiful website, [thecharltonschool.org](http://thecharltonschool.org), to get a complete overview of all the elements that make it one of the prides of our community, and why our club has supported it for decades.



Pres. Jon presents a check from BHBL Rotary to Alex for the Charlton School scholarship program.

*Reported by Steve Caine*

*(from the editor-*

*this just in from Alex Capo, which I wanted to share with the club- gww)*

Please pass along my gratitude to all the members for all the support over the years. It was another great evening and I learned more about individual members, their stories and further opportunities for community connections. Hope you and all the members enjoy what is left of summer with family and friends. You are all welcome anytime. Alex

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

Sincerely, Alex



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