

Reporting Meeting of October 30, 2017

Calendar of Events

Last Week: Oct 23: BH-BL BPA Visioning Committee
This Week: Oct 30: CAPTAIN/CHS merger
Next Week: Nov 6: No meeting due to Apple Pie Festival on Nov.7
Coming Up: Nov 13: BOD Directors 5pm;
 First recipient of Mike Welshhans Scholarship

Attendance: Rotarians: 23 Guests: 1
Invocation: Jon Costolo offered the invocation

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

- Beth Brownell and Silas Schrader had APF sign up sheets and tickets for those who needed them.
- Laura Lee distributed flyers for a performance of the play 'We All Become Brothers and Sisters' – (2 pm Sunday, Nov. 5 at the First Reformed Church - 8 N. Church St. Sch'dy.) - a post-Civil War drama that explores the plight of freed slaves. It is a dramatic portrayal of the hopes and fears for the freed slaves, for each other, and for the country. The dialogue frames issues that have lasted to the present.
- Beth Brownell reported that she and Peter Parker attended the BHBL HS Student Government Organization meeting to talk about Rotary. Afterward they met with the SGO advisor and Sara Weed, advisor to the Interact Club. The advisors expressed the desire to have the students engage in meaningful quality service outside of the high school, forging closer ties to the community. They are reaching out to Rotary to help develop a program with other community groups to provide those opportunities, with the Interact Club as a conduit to the SGO. The idea will be brought to the BOD and the club for further evaluation, and possible creation of a subcommittee. There was immediate positive



- response to this initiative from some members of the club.
- Mike Brewster collected Happy Dollars with his usual good humor.
- Pres. Jon made a special presentation of a "chicken" Halloween card to Ray Callanan, who, as we all know, *just loves* (oops!) a good chicken dinner.

Sue Catroppa, Executive Director CAPTAIN/CHS

CAPTAIN and CHS both have 40 years of experience in providing services to southern Saratoga County and northern Schenectady County. With the imminent retirement of John Irving from CHS, a merger of the two organizations was explored. CAPTAIN has an annual budget of \$2 million and CHS \$800,000. Funding comes from a combination of federal, state and local grants as well as from local fund raising activities. The merger should be complete by the end of 2017.



The two groups provide complimentary services to the homeless, those living in poverty, those without adequate resources to pull themselves up as well as families in crisis, the elderly, adolescents and families facing the challenges of a special needs family member. A youth shelter for homeless and runaway teens provides counseling, tutoring, referral, and life skills training. A new program to provide transitional housing for displaced youth ages 18-24 will begin in 2019. Summer meals, Holiday programs providing food and toys as well as "Care Links" which trains volunteers to provide supportive services to the at home elderly to help them remain independent in their homes for as long as possible are some of the other other programs CAPTAIN/CHS provide. The group also contracts with BHBL Central School District to provide social workers throughout the schools.

CAPteens is a youth development program that focuses on building leadership skills, helping others and philanthropy has been in place in the Shenendahowa CSD. This may be a model the BHBL Rotary can use as part of the program with the BHBL HS SGO mentioned in the announcements. Sue Catroppa was very enthusiastic about pursuing this.



On Sunday, November 12 from 3-9pm CAPTAIN is having a fundraiser at Panza's Restaurant in Saratoga. 20% of your entire bill, including cocktails, will be donated to CAPTAIN. Sue distributed tickets among the members. They must be presented for the donation to occur.

"Lifting people up....building brighter futures"
 CAPTAIN/Community Human Services

Reported by Beth Brownell

Serve with us. The world is waiting.

November Set Up: Silas Schrader, Dan Stec, Bill Wehrle

Clean Up: Peter Sawyer, Alex Davis, Ron Schimpf

Greeters: Gini & Rey Whetten