

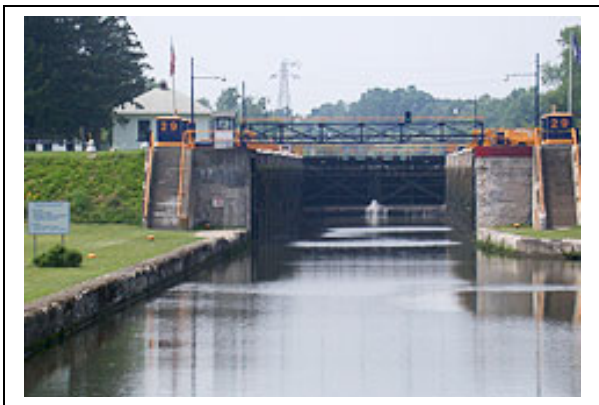
# September 9, 2009

## The Palmyra-Macedon Rotary Club's Canaltown Crier



### THE FOUR-WAY TEST

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOOD WILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?



Entering Erie Canal Lock #29 at Palmyra, NY



Macedon Veteran's Memorial, Canal Park

Palmyra Macedon Rotary Website: [www.palmyramacedonrotary.org](http://www.palmyramacedonrotary.org)  
Rotary District 7120 Website: [www.rotary7120.org](http://www.rotary7120.org)  
Rotary International Website: [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

# September 9

## Bob Graves, VP of Indoor Environmental Air Services

### September 2 -- Holocaust Survivor Henry Silberstern of The Birkenau Boys

Pat VerPlank introduced her guest speaker, Holocaust Survivor Henry Silberstern. The presentation began with the documentary film, "Lost Childhood: The Story of the Birkenau Boys, which tells of the experiences of 89 Jewish boys in Auschwitz-Birkenau who Dr. Josef Mengele chose to keep alive for still unknown reasons. The film was created in 1994 and also features a reunion of the Birkenau Boys, one of whom is Henry Silberstern, at Auschwitz-Birkenau 50 years after being liberated.



Pat VerPlank introducing Henry Silberstern.

The men recall their experiences as young teens in the camps, losing their family members to the gas chambers, and why they feel the bonds they formed with one another were so strong. At a time when their families and everyone they trusted were taken from them, the boys relied on one another despite the Nazi attempts to strip them of everything. The boys (now men) featured in the film were among prisoners who were allowed to first live in the only family camp in Birkenau. On July 6, 1944, Dr. Mengele entered the bunk and selected 89 of the boys to remain alive. Five days after that, the Nazis began liquidating the rest of the family camp, first women and then men, and so on.

A group of the remaining Birkenau Boys reunited first in 1990 and then again in 1994 at the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp, which the later of is documented in the film. Their first return to the camp is emotional for everyone; questions arise as to why this happened, why they were spared, and how the experiences changed the course of their lives.

At the conclusion of the film, Henry answered several questions posed by the audience. He spoke about how the war and experiences in the camps drove many people to do awful things they never would have otherwise. Shortly after his liberation from Birkenau, Henry moved to Canada to go on with his life. As a young adult, he was optimistic — he had come from the depths and rose above it. ‘Even if it’s sad, it’s still positive,’ Henry stated. He picked the positive route to continue on through the rest of his life and went on to get married and have children of his own. Henry now lives in Rochester, NY where he continues to speak to people about the atrocities of the Holocaust and genocide.



Guest speaker Henry Silberstern, District Governor Mark Wyse, and Pal-Mac Rotarian Pat VerPlank

## Missing in Action

J. McGovern, M. Clement, M. Courtney, T.Cox, B. Culver, V. Daly, N. Farrell, M. Rutkowski, N. Schrader, L. Vecchiotti, B. Yost

## Thoughts and Prayers

- Margaret Brooks grandson is having heart surgery.

### FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

*While doing your weekly food shopping, why not pick up an extra item or two to donate to one of our local food pantries? A little goes a long way in the lives of people in need.*

## Guests and Visiting Rotarians

- Henry Silberstern, guest speaker
- Elena Vasquez and her host-family sister Tracy Martini
- Terry Hopkins, Brian Hopkins, and Ashlyn Hopkins, family of Gary Hopkins
- Shirley Bassage, wife of Gene Bassage
- Assistant Governor of Area 11 Tim King
- District Governor Mark Wyse
- Mickey Kirchhoff, wife of Dick Kirchhoff, and Bob Kirchhoff, brother of Dick
- Katie Read, wife of Dave Read
- Rena Haigh, wife of Gary Haigh
- Helen Kommer, wife of Ralph Kommer

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

Ralph and Helen Kommer celebrated 54 years of marriage on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.  
Congratulations!

## 50/50 Winner

**Bob Kirchhoff, brother of Dick Kirchhoff, was the 50/50 winner this week!**

## Upcoming Programs and Presenters

<b>Sept 16</b>	Robert Leopard – Presentation about On-Line Science Education
<b>Sept 23</b>	Gene Bassage – program TBD
<b>Sept 30</b>	CLUB ASSEMBLY
<b>Oct 7</b>	Arnie Pechler – TBD
<b>Oct 14</b>	<b>TBD</b> – Looking for a volunteer
<b>Oct 21</b>	Arnie Pechler – TBD
<b>Oct 28</b>	CLUB ASSEMBLY
<b>Nov 4</b>	<b>TBD</b> – Looking for a volunteer
<b>Nov 11</b>	Eric Chapman – presenting Palmyra Boy Scout Troop 96 and their trip to Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico
<b>Nov 18</b>	<b>TBD</b> – Looking for a volunteer
<b>Nov 25</b>	NO MEETING – DAY BEFORE THANKSGIVING

**Please give the name of your speaker and topic to Debbie LeMoyne (986-2625 or email [debbie.lemoyne@garlock.com](mailto:debbie.lemoyne@garlock.com)) ASAP. If you are unable to find a speaker on the day that you are assigned either find a replacement or switch with someone. If you are looking for topics, please contact Debbie LeMoyne. Thank you.**

# The Palmyra-Macedon Rotary Club

101 E. Main Street  
Palmyra, NY 14522

**Board of Directors**  
**Jim Bush 08-10**  
**Tom Breen 08-10**  
**Gary Haigh 08-10**  
**David Read 08-10**  
**Nancy Schrader 8-10**  
**Bob Yost 08-10**  
**Debbie LeMoyne 09-11**  
**Arnie Pechler 09-11**  
**Pat Ver Plank 09-11**

## 2008 - 2009 Club Officers

**President**  
**President Elect**  
**Vice President**  
**Secretary**  
**Treasurer**  
**Sergeant-at-Arms**  
**Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms**  
**Past President**  
**R.I. President**  
**District Governor, 7120**  
**Assistant Governor Area 11**

**Dave Pray**  
**Cindy Surline**  
**Eric Chapman**  
**Joan Shaffer**  
**Margaret Brooks**  
**Roger Wilbur**  
**Tom Breen**  
**Peter Park**  
**John Kenny**  
**Mark Wyse**  
**Tim King**

## KEEP UP YOUR ATTENDANCE NEARBY CLUB MEETINGS

### Monday

Bloomfield	7:30am	St. Bridget CC
Gananda	6:00pm	Log Cabin Restaurant
Williamson	6:15pm	American Legion
Fairport	6:15pm	Green Lantern Inn
Waterloo	6:30pm	Holiday Inn

### Tuesday

Red Jacket	7:30am	Lehigh Valley Family Restaurant (Rt 96 and Rt 21)
Clifton Springs	12:00pm	Clifton Springs Hospital Auditorium
Ontario-Walworth	6:15pm	Ontario Firemen's Exempt Hall
Red Creek	6:15pm	Shella's Pizzeria
Sodus	6:15pm	Steger Haus

### Wednesday

Victor-Farmingtton	12:00pm	Legacy Sr. Citizens Complex
Wolcott	12:05pm	Wolcott Elks Lodge

### Thursday

Newark	12:05pm	Newark Quality Inn
Canandaigua	12:15pm	Steamboat Landing
Clyde	6:10pm	Donselaar's
East Rochester	6:15pm	Hawthorne's Restaurant