

**Reporting Meeting of Jan 11, 2010
(For Distribution via Cyberspace)**

Calendar of Events

Last Week: 1/11: History Lesson and model ships with Len Porter

This Week: 1/18: MLK Holiday – no meeting

Next Week: 1/25: regular meeting – Ballston Town Hall

Coming up: 3/08: SCCC dinner

Sept. 28 Meeting Attendance: Members 28, Visiting Rotarians 0, Perspective Member 0, and Visitors 2

Invocation: George Baily, Dan Stec, Robert Youmans

Note: Regular meetings are held Monday Evenings at 6:15 PM at the William E. Sewell Memorial Room in the Ballston Town Hall

Please give suggestions for future programs to Peter Sawyer

Jan. 11 Announcements

- George Bailey gave the invocation
- A big thank you was given to Linda LeTendre for her efforts on another wonderful Holiday Party.
- President Chris made three announcements:
 - Third Sunday of the Month Breakfast on Jan 17th – Senior Citizens Center of Saratoga – hosted by Racing City Rotary;
 - Glenville Rotary's Annual Ziti Dinner – Feb 5 – Glenville Senior Center – tickets \$8
 - Mechanicville Rotary sets sail on a *Sweetheart Cruise to Die For* on Feb 14, tickets are \$30. (more info available on the January Toolbox)
- Fred Bailey gave a reminder that dues are due for the 2nd half of the Rotary Year and are \$70.00.
- We are moving the February 8th rotary meeting to the Charlton Tavern.
- Harold Townley also reported that the Charlton Tavern will not be able to host our Monday evening meetings. The club would have to move the meetings to Tuesday nights to have the Tavern host them.

- During the Happy Dollar program, Walter Grattidge announced that during the Holiday Party someone told him that they would make a donation the Rotary Foundation if he modeled the gift he was given during the gift exchange, a pair Spongebob Squarepants boxer shorts. He did, and the donation was made.

History Lesson and Model Ships with Len Porter

Len Porter served with 101st Airborne division as a 1st sergeant for three years on active duty and for 20 years in the National Guard and has been making model ships out of wood for 40 years. He brought in two models to show the club. One of these models was "The Hood".

The battlecruiser *Hood* was completed by the U.S. in 1920. The largest warship in the world, the *Hood* was the major symbol of the power of the Royal Navy in the 1930s.

By the outbreak of the Second World War experts considered the *Hood* to be vulnerable from aerial or long-range attack. However, in July 1940, she successfully took part in the bombardment of Mers-el-Kébir.

On May 24th, 1941 the *Hood* led the new battleship *Prince of Wales* into action against the *Bismarck* and *Prince Eugen*.

The engagement began when the *Hood* began firing at the more advanced *Prince Eugen*. When the *Bismarck* arrived it used its 15-inch guns and after taking several direct hits the *Hood* exploded before sinking. Only three out of a crew of 1,421 survived.

Len explained that he only made his models from wood and never from a kit. He would find pictures of the ships and base his models off those pictures.

Serve with us...the world is waiting.

Reported by Steve Keena