

2014 Rotarian of the Year – Leonard Kane

(Presented by John Spare)

From Lord Tennyson:

What hope is here for modern rhyme
To him who turns a musing eye
On songs, and deeds, and lives, that lie
Foreshortened in the tract of time

In the signs of the zodiac our Rotarian of the year is a 'Leo'. One of approximately 15 other Leos in this club.

Our candidate's life spans parts of two centuries. This youth may not have experienced the '29 Crash yet may have certainly been affected by its penetration of 20th century.

Those of you good at math like our recipient may confirm that this member is an octogenarian.

The birthplace of our designate lies in New England. Our designate attended University there.

You would think of our raconteur as a family man. He met his bride in Geneva at a wartime dance hall where many veterans entertained themselves with the likes of Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey who played one night stands in the Finger Lakes. And three children came from this union. A grandchild whose name begins with the letter C has been declared in many of his prideful reports. His Wife whose name begins with the letter B shares distinction with 4 other member's wives whose first name is Barbara.

You will be surprised to hear that he is an excellent typist. This skill helped his Travail as he climbed the chairs of an Ontario County School District.

After returning from World War II he studied further at Hobart, the U of R and obtained a Master of Education at Alfred University.

Common for staff of his school district is to complete a yearly self-evaluation. In one he declared great joy in getting to work with a Micro Computer in the late 1980's. Earlier in 1969 he wrote in a performance appraisal: Regarding integrating the curriculum for the Elementary, Junior Academy and the Academy that he felt many times like the jam in a sandwich – being squeezed from both sides. Perhaps he first advanced the idea of his school district to hire a curriculum specialist.

He retired in the late 1980's. He worked with and for Alton Farnsworth, John Skawski and PDG Ray Hughes, his Rotary sponsor. He was a faithful participant for 29 year in our City School District. Part of his administrative time was spent as the district's tax collector. His hobbies were golf and he loved, like all fathers, his family of five which included Barbara, the love of his life.

This family sports orator chaired many committees and relished the time he worked at the annual big events like our Pancake Supper, a mainstay of our club for over 30 years.

He went through the chairs to become our club President in 1971-72. He worked as a committee member of the 4 Way Test Committee for several years of which two where as its Chairperson.

May we rise to acclaim this year's recipient, Leonard Kane. As he comes to the front, his wife Barbara will join him to help him celebrate.

2014 Non-Rotarian of the Year Award – John Thompson

(Presented by Bob Palumbo)

It is my pleasure to present my good friend John Thompson with the Non-Rotarian of the Year Award.

I first met John when he moved to Canandaigua from the Midwest over 30 years ago when he and his wife joined the Erina's Hose Company. John and his wife Pam were both very active volunteer firefighters. Here are a few other places that John volunteers his time. He currently is President of the Erina Hose Co., Advisory Board for Gleaners Kitchen, Ontario County Pathways Board for 20 years - 15 years as Treasurer, Ontario County Planning Commission 10 year term, St. John's Church Chair of Buildings and Grounds, Storybook Project Volunteer at Ontario County Jail for 7 years, 28 years of service at Bristol Mountain Ski Patrol with several service awards. BUT, that is not what John is being recognized for today. We need to go back 20 years. This is when I'd first see John regularly around the City, no matter what time of year or weather, going through recycling bins and trash barrels at the curb, on Main Street and the Pier looking for returnable bottles and cans. For the longest time I figured my friend was either hard up for money or very cheap. Knowing he had a very good job as an Orthopedic P.A. I figured he was just very cheap. Then in 2001 in my son's high school graduation program there were 2 - \$500 John Thompson Scholarships. I asked John kidding, if those were his scholarships, "yes", he said, "that's what I do with the can and bottle money." I quickly apologized for what I had thought of him. Over the last 20 plus years John has collected over \$20,000 in cans and bottles and provided over 40 scholarships to Canandaigua Academy students. The last 2 years John has provided 3 - \$500 scholarships through his hands on hard work. John Thompson is a great example of the Rotary motto, 'Service Above Self' and the 4-Way Test. Let's all please recognize John as the 2014 Non-Rotarian of the Year.

2014 Rotary Vocational Award – The Honorable Philip C. Povero

(Presented by George Herren)

I am honored to present this year's Rotary Vocational Award on behalf of the citizenry of our greater Ontario County community and thank our entire membership for that privilege.

Joining me in the occasion is the Honorable Ted Fafinsky, Farmington Town Supervisor and Chairman of the Public Safety Committee for the Ontario County Board of Supervisors.

The Vocational Award was first given in 1990, making this year's nominee the 25th recipient of such prestigious acclaim, which recognizes significant contribution to the vocational and educational progress of others.

The award winning nomination was submitted by Rotarians Mark Vahey and Ed Varno and I now share their thoughts with you.

Our nominee this year is a true public servant dedicated to helping solve the problems of the people and of the community. He is a gentleman who's public and private lives are marked by integrity and truthfulness.

Our nominee may miss his days of chasing the bad guys but now he takes pleasure in setting policy and establishing programs to help the vulnerable members of our community – youth and senior citizens. He can be proud of his initiatives like the School Resource Officer Program, The Seniors and Lawmen Together Council and for the programs under the Partnership for Ontario County like the Ontario County Youth Court, the Child Advocacy Program for the Finger Lakes and for the Drug Free Community Program. Our nominee was also instrumental in developing the Finger Lakes Law Enforcement Academy, Stop DWI and the Ontario County Traffic Safety Board.

In his parents' final years our nominee was a good son. Despite his busy schedule he was attentive and responsive to the needs of his mother and his father. He demonstrates the same degree of care and concern for the many people in this community who give their time, treasure and talent in support of the many community programs he has fostered. His every day demeanor – what he says, thinks and does – is a reflection of the Four-Way Test. Despite his highly visible public image he is a simple man where the words of 'Truth' and 'Fairness' have deep meaning and where building 'Goodwill' and building our community give him pleasure and satisfaction.

Please give a standing, Rotary ovation to your 2014 Vocational Award Recipient, the Honorable Philip C. Povero, Sheriff of Ontario County, and the longest serving Sheriff in the history of Ontario County.

2014 Rookie Rotarian of the Year – Dr. Al Walker

(Presented by Beverly Cartwright)

Good afternoon everyone. For those who do not know me, I am Beverly Cartwright and just a few years ago I had the honor of being the recipient of the Rookie Rotarian of the Year award. It is therefore my privilege to be able to present the award to this year's recipient. This award is given to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the club during their first few years as a member, and this year's honoree has certainly done that.

This person was born on October 15th to a physician and his wife in Rochester, NY. They have a son and a sister who reside in Virginia, a daughter who lives in Montana and a stepdaughter and granddaughter who reside in Irondequoit.

This person's resume tells the story of a person living the Four-Way Test throughout their life. This is a person who has been dedicated to helping others, a person who has demonstrated what service above self is all about and a person who lives life to the fullest. This individual attended Dartmouth College and then went on to medical school in Toronto. After college he served in the United States Air Force for 2 years. Our recipient moved to Canandaigua in 1972 to work at Thompson Hospital. In 1981 he moved his practice to Clifton Springs Hospital while providing surgical coverage at Newark Wayne Community Hospital and Myers Community Hospital. He was Chief of Surgery for many years along with being on the Board of Directors at the hospital. He is currently working a few days a week at the Wound Center for Hyperbaric Medicine at Clifton Springs Hospital.

This year's Rookie Rotarian is an avid skier, has run several marathons and climbed all of the 46 high peaks in the Adirondack Mountains. He currently plays golf as much as possible and is very active in raising funds for the House of John Golf Tournament. Since joining the Canandaigua Rotary Club he has been an active member and is currently doing a very fine job serving as Club Treasurer.

Please join me in recognizing this year's Rookie Rotarian of the Year – Dr. Al Walker.