

### **Calendar of Events**

**Last Week:** 11/02 Lon Penna – Amazing Alice’s Story

**This Week:** 11/09 Jere Blackwelder – Brookside Museum

**Next Week:** 11/16 Michael Saccocio – City Mission

**Coming Up:** 12/01 Community Tree Lighting (Tuesday)

**Note:** Regular meetings are held Monday evenings on Zoom at 6:00 pm. The meeting ID and Password and the phone number are distributed the afternoon of the meeting by email.

*Please give suggestions for future programs to Dan Stec*

*Find us at [bhblrotary.org](http://bhblrotary.org) and on Facebook*

*Together, we see a world where people unite and act to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves”.*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Tom Brownell led us with great enthusiasm in the Four-Way Test.
- Silas announced that over 100 coats, plus mittens and boots, were donated by Rotarians and community members for the City Mission. You can still drop off coats at Schrader & Company to be donated.
- Linda gave an update on the Seeds for Peace program. They will be getting a large shipment delivered at the Food Bank and will need help unpacking and sorting the seeds. Please reach out to Linda if able to help.
- Gini is making a card delivery to Maplewood Manor from the Care Card project. She is asking for anyone working on cards to have them turned in to her by November 20<sup>th</sup>. She also noted that people are still dropping off Books for Troops, and that she and Rey intend to ship a box once they get enough books.
- Mike gave an update on the Tree Lighting event which will be different this year. Individuals will participate by driving through in their vehicles to see Santa and his elves.
- Mike and Gregg this past week also went to the Charlton Girl’s School and presented them with the check for \$1,000.

- Gregg also read us a kind thank you note from Captain Human Services, thanking us for the landscape work we did for their road sign on route 50.
- Silas updated on the ongoing progress of the new pavilion at the Indian Meadows park. They will be working there again on Friday and would welcome any volunteers to help out.

### **Brookside Museum**

#### **Jere Blackwelder**

Fellow Rotarian from the Ballston Spa club, Jere Blackwelder spoke to our club over Zoom about the Brookside Museum in Ballston Spa.

The museum is the home of the Saratoga County Historical Society who cares and maintains for the museum building and grounds. Built in 1792 as a resort hotel, Brookside has a long history of serving people. Among the oldest hotel buildings still standing in the United States, Brookside’s history is as diverse as the people who visited here. At one time a boys’ school, the building has also been a private residence, a boarding house, a sanitarium, and apartments. In 1970, the Saratoga County Historical Society purchased the building and opened it as a museum. Ever since, Brookside has been preserving Saratoga County’s unique history.

Jere talked about the museum’s need to reinvent itself during this Covid pandemic. They have been able to put a lot of exhibits online and started ongoing online programs, including one called Experts Next Door which talks about a range of topics from Beer Making History, Herb gardening, and Historical Preservation. An upcoming talk will focus on the history of Stewart’s shops and the County Store.

They are also looking at having the museum and SCHS become a resource center for other historical societies and anyone needed historical resource help in the county and local area.

He finished with a request for anyone interested to become a member and to promote the new online/virtual exhibits and programs the museum is showcasing. For further info about the SCHS and Brookside Museum please see their website: [brooksidemuseum.org](http://brooksidemuseum.org)

*Reported by Jon Costolo*