Saranac Club Reaches New Heights

Kiwanis Club of SARANAC LAKE, Adirondack Division – When IIP Peter sent out his plan to address childhood obesity in his NY District Governor’s Project, the Saranac Lake Club saw an unique opportunity. When the club gathers Thursday morning at the Hotel Saranac, every member sees this opportunity all around. Saranac Lake might be called the epicenter of Adirondack outdoor activity. Under the direction of the Club President and avid hiker Craig Stevens and experienced community people, the “Kiwanim Mountain Mile Trekkers” Project was born. The club artist, avid hiker, and Adirondack Forty-Sixer Noryne Burgoyne developed our program mascot. The goal of the project was to encourage local kids in grades 4 and 5 to participate in one of the areas greatest outdoor activities, hiking. A challenge was made to the kids to join the Kiwanis Hikes. Once a month from May through September children and Kiwanians hit the trail. The children were also asked to hike with their family and/or friends. In early May, the club presented the program to all 3 schools in the Saranac Lake Central School District. They spoke to all 4th and 5th graders and presented a slide show and hiker preparation presentation. Program information and registration papers were distributed to all students. The club picked up all hiking participants at a central location in the village and provided transportation to the trailhead and returned each participant to their home at the end of each hike. The local Red Cross chapter provided the first aid kits, and a few local merchants provided a variety of prizes for the participants to give away to each member based on the level of their success. Each hike was reported in the local paper the Adirondack Daily Enterprise, with a group photo to acknowledge the effort and participation of all the kids.

Marrazzo Kiwanian of The Year

The Kiwanis Club of MASSAPEQUA, LSC Division – their 55th Annual Installation of Officers and Board of Directors presented the George F. Hixon Award to DPP Rick Falta for his efforts on behalf of Kiwanis and our children. Above: LG Sharon Smith congratulates Hixon Award winner DPP Rick Falta with outgoing President Sue Martin (right).