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**The Cornell Club of Greater Buffalo  
Scholarship Dinner**

Featuring  
**Janice Okun '54**  
on  
*Confessions of a Locavore*  
*Restaurant Critic*

September 24<sup>th</sup> 2009



**Cornell University**

[www.cornell.edu](http://www.cornell.edu)  
[www.cornellclub-buffalo.org](http://www.cornellclub-buffalo.org)

**Vizcarra Vineyards at Becker Farms  
Gasport, NY**

## Our Speaker

Janice Okun '54 retired as the food editor for *The Buffalo News* in April 2009, after a tenure that stretched four decades. She continues to write for *News* as the restaurant reviewer every Friday in *Gusto*. A past president of the American Society of Food Journalists, she is currently working on a book of memoirs and recipes to be published next autumn.

### Becker Farms and Vizcarra Vineyards

Becker Farms and Vizcarra Vineyards is a fifth-generation, family-managed, Cornellian-owned 340 acre working fruit and vegetable farm that sells most of their products directly to the public. In the last two years Becker Farms has adopted a field to table approach with all of its catered events serving items grown and picked for the occasion right from the farm or brought in from other local growers within a 100 mile radius of Becker Farms. Becker Farms believes that a farm fresh meal is a very basic yet integral part of maintaining a strong bond with families and friends.

### Ecoverde Coffee and The McCullagh Coffee Company

Ecoverde Coffee® is 100% Rainforest Alliance Certified™ Coffee, with 100% compostable packaging. Expertly roasted by McCullagh Coffee, it's a delicious and cost-effective way to become environmentally and socially responsible. Cornellian-owned, McCullagh is headquartered in Buffalo, NY, and has been roasting coffee since 1867. The company is committed to being as sustainable as possible by 2017.

### About the Cornell Club of Greater Buffalo

Since 1880, Buffalo-area Cornellians have been gathering to support each other, the University, and the region. Today, over 2400 Cornellians call the international Buffalo-Niagara region home, and Cornell currently enrolls over 175 students from the Buffalo-Niagara region – around 45 students in every entering class year. Prominent Buffalo-area Cornellians have included E.B. Green '78, Willis Carrier '01, Matt Urban '48, and the Schoellkopf family.

*Interested in organizing an event or getting involved with the Club?*

Contact Club President, Matthew Nagowski '05 at [nagowski@cornell.edu](mailto:nagowski@cornell.edu)

## Reception

### 100 Mile Program

Mindy '79 and Amanda Vizcarra

### Welcome and Introductory Remarks from Club President

Matthew P. Nagowski '05

### Introduction of Speaker

Jay Brett '53

### Special Speaker on

#### *Confessions of a Locavore Restaurant Critic*

Janice Okun '54

### Alma Mater

Alan Lockwood '65 M.D. '69

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### Scholarship Recipients for the 2008-2009 Academic Year

Kristen Angierski '12

Aaron Klein '12

Anna Barker '10

Anthony Kozak '09

Serina Brady '12

Matthew Langer '12

Brian Choi '09

Catherine Lusardi '12

Jonathan Cohan '09

Christopher Preusch '12

Christina Connolly '12

Daniel Salisbury '10

Sumon De '10

Dara Taylor '09

Yaroslav Dvinov '09

Jordan Toth '12

Rachael Kermis '12

Jenny Zhang '11

Established in 1975, the Club's Scholarship Fund provides financial support to deserving undergraduates from Erie and Niagara Counties. You can give at [giving.cornell.edu/give/](http://giving.cornell.edu/give/) with a specific designation to Fund #218100 – Cornell Club of Greater Buffalo Scholarship

## **Alma Mater**

**Far above Cayuga's waters  
With its waves of blue  
Stands our noble Alma Mater  
Glorious to view**

**Lift the chorus  
Speed it onward  
Loud her praises tell  
Hail to thee our Alma Mater  
Hail, all hail, Cornell!**

**Far above the busy humming  
Of the bustling town  
Reared against the arch of heaven  
Looks she proudly down**

**Lift the chorus  
Speed it onward  
Loud her praises tell  
Hail to thee our Alma Mater  
Hail, all hail, Cornell!**

## **Excerpt from a letter of one of our scholarship recipients:**

I grew up and spent my entire pre-college life in Lancaster, attending Lancaster high school where I was involved in the Project-Lead-the-Way engineering program... I decided to come to Cornell for a number of different reasons, but the thing that impressed me the most about the campus far above Cayuga's waters was its ability to combine the academic character of an Ivy League university with the focus of a major research institution...

My current interest in robotic space systems has stemmed from some of the work I did this summer during an internship at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California... I had an amazing opportunity to work on the next Mars rover mission – the Mars Science Laboratory – that will specialize in searching for specific carbon compounds in the Martian soil that are the essential building blocks of life as we know it.

After the completion of the M.Eng. program here at Cornell, my plans are still somewhat undecided. I will be applying to Ph.D. programs for the start of the Fall 2009 semester, but I may end up holding off on a doctoral program to return to work at JPL for a few years.

Anyways, I would just like to thank the Cornell Club of Greater Buffalo once again for the scholarship award and, in general, for its support of current students at Cornell. It is great to see an alumni organization that takes such a vested interest in providing resources to help students meet their educational goals.

If I am ever back in Buffalo again for an extended time, I would definitely like to get involved in some of the events that the club organizes. So please feel free to add me to any of the mailings that the club provides. I hope to one day meet the members of the club that provided the funding for this generous scholarship.

Thank you,

Matthew L. Rozek '08 M.Eng '09