

OPENING

Time: 6:00 PM
 Pledge of Allegiance: President Judy
 Invocation: Susan Mozena

GUESTS

Bill Spencer, guest of Judy Masserang.

VISITING ROTARIANS

Jason Allen, Traverse City.

BIRTHDAYS

George Shammas (1/6), Tom Youngblood (1/10), and Scott Matthews (1/12).

ANNIVERSARIES

None.

ROVING REPORTER

Fred Ollison
 -- Roger Hull wrote a nice letter to the editor in the Grosse Pointe News about the Tot Lot reaching its financial goal.
 -- Congratulations to Jackie Gleason who recently became engaged and is planning a spring wedding!
 -- In typical Fred fashion, he had a very interesting story about a trip experience. This time it involved Sarah, a Roomba, and her daughter's dog. See Fred for further details.
 -- Good luck to George McMullen as he has officially become a member of the roving reporter committee.
 -- Per Bob Lucas, the Michigan Humane Society is providing international support to Australia as it battles the brush fires.

SUNSHINE NEWS

-- Florence Seltzer acknowledged the strong GP Rotary showing at a very well attended funeral for Al Ceravolo.

OIL CAN

-- Postponed.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Diane Strickler
 -- Since July, the Club has participated in 18 service projects with 37 Rotarians devoting 330 volunteer hours (not including work on RYLA and the Tot Lot). Thank you to all who spearheaded and future projects are being lined up.
 -- A sign-up sheet was passed around for the Michigan Humane Society Telethon on 2/13 from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM. Contact Bob Lucas to register.

TOT LOT REIMAGINED

-- \$253,464 has been raised! This includes \$23,000 in in-kind donations from a total of 148 donors, which includes 44 Rotarians. There is time for 100% Club participation as donations are still being accepted and, if made before 1/31, your name will be included on a recognition plaque.
 -- The playground equipment is being stored at Stroh River Place waiting for warm weather so be prepared to help with its construction in the spring.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-- GP Sunrise has invited the Club to attend a DSO concert and participate in a feather bowling event (different dates ☺). An e-mail was sent out with the information.

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Ruth Azar, Founder & Director of The Second Mile Center of Detroit.

Ms. Azar says a calling from God led her to open the Center in 2007,

which serves over 200 children, ages 3 to 19. On a daily/weekly basis, the

Center offers after-school programs, a summer camp, provides donated free clothing, furniture, and baby goods, holds a Monday Night Community Dinner, and runs a computer lab. It also brings in a no-cost annual mobile health fair and takes the children on field trips to expand their horizons. Mixed in all of this is ministry work, spreading the word of God.

The Center operates on a very tight budget of \$150,000 plus \$100,000 in-kind services. Even with these limited resources, it is able to offer the programs listed above and also prepared 10,000 meals in 2019.

Ms. Azar believes the children want to belong to something and the Center offers them an alternative to gangs. Her goal is to teach the children who they are, that they have value, and that they are valued. To learn more, volunteer, or donate, visit www.seconddmilecenter.org. (Editor's note: Ruth Azar is the spouse of Scott Matthews).

50/50 RAFFLE

A pot of \$882 with \$441 going to the winner. Lisa Gandelot held the winning numbers and called on President Judy to find the joker. Alas, the pot continues to grow.

CALENDAR

Jan 15: Jeff Fuerst, Rotarian from Mt. Clemens – Mt. Clemens Rotary Club's 100 years.

Jan 22: Ty Hinton -- Harper Woods Planning & Economic Development