

OPENING

Time: 6:00 PM (Mark Cory presiding)
Pledge of Allegiance
Invocation: Susan Mozena

GUESTS

Bryce Thomas

VISITING ROTARIANS

John Brooks, Naples North. Dennis Hyduk, Grosse Pointe Sunrise

BIRTHDAYS

Lina Bowman (5/14), Murray Davis (5/20), and Ted Everingham (5/22).

ANNIVERSARIES

Bob Lucas, 8 years. Scott Matthews, 3 years. Matthew Pingel, 3 years.

ROVING REPORTER

John Mozena

-- The GP News had a nice picture of Sierra Donaven, as a member of the GP Farms Beautification Advisory Commission, attending a tree planting in memory of longtime DPW employee, Mark Nesler, who passed away recently.

-- Carolyn Graham's business, Tutor Doctor, had a GP Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting today. Congratulations!

-- Judy Masserang had a nice conversation with Gary Niehaus, trading knee surgery stories, and learned that Gary and Paige are/will be members of a Tampa Rotary club.

-- Irena Politano's son, Armani, will be competing in a truck race on 5/20 that will be televised on FS1.

-- John read off the names of the club members and significant others (17 in total) who will be attending District Conference this weekend. Great club representation!

-- Per Diane Strickler, the Family Center's Suicide Prevention Walk will take place at 10:30 AM on 5/15, starting at GP North.

SUNSHINE NEWS

-- Continue to keep Fred Ollison in your thoughts and prayers as he battles his health issues.

OIL CAN

-- Postponed.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

-- Second Mile Center clean-up on 5/21 at 9:00AM. There is a link on the website calendar to sign up to volunteer.

GP SOUTH INTERACT CLUB

-- The Club's officers (Olivia Guzman, Moira Hix, Emma Palazzolo, Lilli Walton, and Fiona Lacroix) gave a brief overview of their projects during this school year. They included doing volunteer work for the Greening of Detroit, GP Sunrise Run, Arts and Scraps, The Helm, Crossroads, and Detroit's homeless. Their membership distribution list includes 140 students and have had meetings with up to 30 in attendance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-- Fellowship dinner at Whiskey Six on May 18. Please RSVP to Kim Towar (kim@towar.com).

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Lisa Vallee-Smith, PR Hall of Fame Inductee and Philanthropist. Ms. Vallee-Smith grew up in GP Woods with two older brothers and a younger sister. She attended a small liberal arts college in Indiana before transferring to Wayne State, where she became a serious student

with a passion for journalism and marketing.

Her employment started as the Director of Public Relations at Detroit Renaissance, which worked on the Detroit Jazz Festival, the Thanksgiving Day Parade, and the Detroit Grand Prix. She was also the president of Franco Public Relations Group for three years in the 1990s before starting her own public relations company, Airfoil Group, in 2000. Over the years, the company's clients have included Microsoft, eBay, and PayPal. She is currently its CEO but is transitioning her way into retirement.

Ms. Vallee-Smith is now in the "bonus chapter" of her life, making a positive impact on our community through the Smith Family Foundation that she co-founded with her husband, Jeffrey. She believes that they have donated \$500,000 over the last 5 years, with the main beneficiaries being Ascension St. John Hospital, Forgotten Harvest, and growing the sport of lacrosse in the City of Detroit. Her "third son", Liam McIlroy, a GP South graduate, gave a short summary of his efforts on the lacrosse front as the Cass Tech Boys Lacrosse coach and the Director of the Detroit Box Lacrosse Association.

Ms. Vallee-Smith surprised us at the end of her talk by making a donation to the Club's Foundation. It was very much appreciated!

CALENDAR

May 18: Fellowship Dinner at Whiskey Six