

Pearl River Rotary Club Meeting  
Joe & Joe Restaurant-Pearl River, NY  
January 2, 2014

Pledge: Art Aldrich

Invocation: A wonderful reading by Jim Shepard

No Visiting Rotarians or guests

Sec. Larry must have still been bringing in the new year because we did not have any birthdays or anniversaries to celebrate. Although Pres. Jim did celebrate that he has 6 months left as president.

**Announcements:** Lauri asked all those interested to save the date of January 24, 2014 for a Rotarians Wine Appreciation Fellowship event at her house. All who enjoy wine and those who would like to are welcome. More information coming soon.

Ray Coyle announced the annual formation of the football playoffs pool at \$100.00 per box. Contact him for more information. This is a major fund raiser for the club.

Jim Shepard shared some important dates with us: Club Regifting Party—January 22, 2014 6-10pm at Aqua Terra Restaurant. All proceeds will benefit the Rotary Polo Plus Campaign. Valentine's Brunch Sunday, February 16, 2014 starting at 12:30pm at Bully Boys X Restaurant in Congers, NY.

**Queen of Hearts:** Even though Art Aldrich drew the "9 of diamonds" he managed to entertain us by placing his elbow into his soup bowl & spilling some in to his lap. One of our more memorable Queen of Hearts drawings.

**Happy Bucks:** Many Happy New Year wishes!! Ann enjoyed her cruise, Sandy was excited to have her sister visit by even happier when her sister's Black Lab left, Ryan looking forward to a trip to El Salvador providing the weather cooperates tomorrow, Jay is pleased with his new/used hip—great to see him up and around, Jim Shepard was celebrating his 8 month old grand daughter, Kate was looking forward to spending tomorrow with her kids if there was a snow day at school?, Nancy was excited her grand daughter Allison had received 5 of her 6 grades & they were all A's, Ed Reynolds was surrounded by his family over the holidays, Ed Grant was beginning his 52<sup>nd</sup> year in Rotary, Bob Bergman had received \$1500.00 from his Pearl River classmates for the Foundation, Ray Pucci was excited to have the Pucci name & Pearl River represented at the upcoming Olympics by US hockey player Josephine Pucci (even though she is not a relation), and Pres. Jim was pleased to see so many of us right after New Year's Day.

**Program:** Ann Taylor was our speaker today reliving the wonderful year she, her husband, and the rotary club had hosting Rotary Youth Exchange Student Hendrick from Sweden a number of years ago when the club was participating in that program. Ann spoke of the many activities at home & school they all shared. Sandy shared her experiences with Hendrick while at Pearl River HS. Many club members remember hosting him and the fun they had at various outings. Mark related some of his experiences with another exchange student—Roger from Brazil. Bob Bergman gave us yet another experience of a Youth Exchange Student- Lars that he hosted. All of these experiences of hosting build life long friendships and expand the depth of the club. Bob Craig from the International Ser. Comm. explained that the comm. is looking into returning to hosting an exchange student and will be looking for the support of the club with this project. Thank you Ann and all the others for helping us understand what a terrific program Rotary Youth Exchange is and how beneficial it is to all.

**Four Way Test:** Led by Ray Coyle & Ray Pucci