

# TRUMANSBURG ROTARY MEETING MINUTES FOR 9/27/12



### **Dinner Schedule**

10/4/12 Starkweather/VanDoren 10/11/12 Zgola/Abrams 10/18/12 Andrew/Baumann 10/25/12 Bouchard/Guthrie Please scroll down for a list of upcoming events.

### **Speaker Schedule**

10/4/12 Club Assembly 10/11/12 Andrew 10/18/12 Club Assembly 10/25/12 Baumann

The meeting was brought to order by Past President Joel. We started our meeting with the guest speaker, Jeffrey Collins, who is a social worker at Hospice.

Jeff did photography as a living and one day was asked to do a photo shoot at a hospice and while doing the shoot he realized that this is what he wanted to do. Jeff said you die the way you live and when you go to see a person with a terminal illness you should respect all the defenses that that person has.

Most people fear their own losses and there is not magic formula to make it better. Hospice is a humbling experience. Jeff recommended we read a short book by Leo Tolstoy titled *The Death of Ivan Ilyich*. Here is what I found on the internet if anyone is interested:

The Death of Ivan Ilyich (Russian: Смерть Ивана Ильича, Smert' Ivana Ilyicha), first published in 1886, is a novella by Leo Tolstoy, one of the masterpieces of his late fiction, written shortly after his religious conversion of the late 1870s.

The novel tells the story of the death, at age 45, of a high-court judge in 19th-century Russia. Living what seems to be a good life; his dreadful relationship with his wife notwithstanding, Ivan Ilyich Golovin bangs his side while putting up curtains in a new apartment intended to reflect his family's superior status in society. Within weeks, he has developed a strange taste in his mouth and a pain that will not go away. Several expensive doctors are consulted, but beyond muttering about blind gut and floating kidneys, they can neither explain nor treat his condition, and it soon becomes clear that Ivan Ilyich is dying.

The second half of the novel records his terror as he battles with the idea of his own death. "I have been here. Now I am going there. Where? ... No, I won't have it!" Oppressed by the length of the process, his wife, daughter, colleagues, and even the physicians, decide in the end not to speak of it, but advise him to stay calm and follow doctors' orders, leaving him to wrestle with how this terrible thing could befall a man who had lived so well.

He spends his last three days screaming. He realizes he is "done for, there was no way back, the end was here, the absolute end ..." One hour before his death, in a moment of clarity, he sees that he has not, after all, lived well, but has lived only for himself. After months of dwelling on his own anguish, he suddenly feels pity for the people he's leaving behind, and hopes his death will set them free. With that thought, his pain disappears. He hears someone say, "He's gone." He whispers to himself, "Death has gone," and draws his last breath.

Next, Cindy read a thank you from the Bainbridge Rotary for our having a team in their golf tournament. They had 20 teams total and made \$3800.

Joel Podkaminer thanked everyone for their help on the Chris Bond Run so far. We still need gifts and if you can clean out your storage room and find some "rummage sale" items, please bring them to the meeting next week and Joel will pick them up. There isn't much time remaining.

Joel Abrams told us that he is going to have a personal interview on WPIE thanks to Frank Zgola.

Also there were sign-ups for this coming Saturday to help with Life's So Sweet Chocolates during Ithaca's Apple Fest and there are still slots open for more volunteers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21.



- \$1 from John Kotun because Martha is coming home next Wednesday.
- \$1 from Joel A. for Martha coming home.
- \$1 from Joel A. for radio interview.
- \$1 from Joel P. for Cindy's help on the Chris Bond Run.
- \$1 from Joel P. for Martha coming home.
- \$1 from Tom O. for Martha coming home.
- \$4 from Cindy for being able to wear shoes again.

### Attendees for 9/27/12 Meeting

Joel Abrams and wife, Joan, Zoren Bullock, Ben Curtis, Ben Guthrie, Peggy Haine and husband Peter Hoover, Cindy Kain, John Kotun, Darlynne Overbaugh, Tom Overbaugh, Kym Starkweather

### Guests:

Jeffrey Collins, guest speaker from Hospice and Saoirse McClory, the Director of Financial Services for Hospice, Amy Brill and Don and Hallie Harris from Casper, Wyoming and Don is a Rotary member in Casper.

Dost thou love life?
Then do not squander time for that's the stuff life is made of.

Benjamin Franklin



Saturday, September 29th, 2012 Life's So Sweet Ithaca store opening



Sunday, October 14th, 2012, Chris Bond Run



Saturday, October 20th, 2012, Cooking for the Femtastics at Trumansburg HS

## FOUR WAY TEST

- 1. Is it the truth?
- 2. Is it fair to all concerned?
- 3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- 4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

# Our Exchange Students







Poland