



The Serving Tray

Rotary Club of Kirksville -- Charter 371 -- District 6040

www.kvrotary.org



March 5, 2025 - Volume #75

AMANDA EVERHART ON SVOH (STUDENT VOLUNTEERS IN OPTOMETRIC SERVICE TO HUMANITY)



In Dale Schenewerk's introduction we learned that Amanda Everhart is a 2023 Truman graduate (Biology major). She was a member of Truman's Rotaract club for four years and president of the club for two years. Amanda is now a member of the Class of 2028 at the Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, Tennessee. She is pictured on the left with Past President Marie Murphree who conducted the meeting in President Ruth's absence.

Amanda said SVOH, established in 1975, works closely with the Lions Club. SVOH volunteers are involved in sorting, cleaning, repairing and organizing eyeglasses for distribution to individuals in 14 countries in Central and South America. Along with Lions Club International, SVOH helps provide vital optometric services to those in need during yearly missions trips. In addition to checking the general health of eyes, they check visual acuity and retinopathy. In 2019, seven different groups provided services in seven countries: Belize, Mexico, Ecuador, Columbia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador and Bolivia. In 2022, 893 patients in Belize were examined and 356 pathology diagnoses were made with 192 referrals; 839 pairs of glasses and 60 sunglasses were provided. In 2023, mission trips were to Belize, Mexico and Ecuador. In 2024, 737 patients were examined in Belize with 349 pathology diagnoses and 83 referrals; 580 pairs of glasses and 236 sunglasses were provided. The May 2025 mission trip will be to Belize and Ecuador. Amanda has not yet gone on a mission trip but hopes to go soon.

Amanda said if we have eyeglasses or sunglasses to donate but didn't bring them today, they can be dropped off tomorrow morning at the Thousand Hills Rotary Club's 7 am meeting at the Rotary Park conference room. She said non-prescription sunglasses for adults and kids are particularly sought since the countries helped are near the equator where the sun is intense.

50-50 Drawing: Ralph Cupelli did not pull the ace of spades or joker; pot now up to \$1,331.
\$25 Happy Bucks. \$5 for Shoes for Orphan Souls

Guests:

Keri Siegel (TSU Rotaract President)
Susan Knox, new Adair Co. Public Library director
(guest of Teresa Ross)

March is Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Month.

Upcoming Programs:

Mar. 12: Lori Guffey/Adair County Health Dept.
Mar. 19: Austin Miller/City's April Ballot Item
Mar. 26: Marie Murphree/The Rotary Foundation
April 2: TBA
April 9: Qbic, Thai Exchange Student