**The Cog**

**Rotary Club of Harwich-Dennis**

**November 20, 2014**

President Tony Quinn opened the meeting (18 members present) with the Pledge.

“God Bless America” was sung and Phil Baroni gave the invocation.

No Birthday’s or Anniversaries were celebrated this week.

Guests: Howard Kendall – Yarmouth Club

 Mark Amidon

Announcements:

Tony reminded us that the Christmas Party was re-scheduled to Thursday December 4th and will send out an e-mail regarding attendance and feedback on a proposal to move the party to January

Barnstable Rotary Club “Trivia Night” is scheduled for – December 8th at 7 P.M.

This school atlas order will be ready for distribution on December 5th. Club members are asked to contact Trish Graham if they are available assist with the schoolroom presentations.

Barbara and Usama attended the Paul Harris Dinner on Thursday November 13th. Our club was not recognized for 100% “Rotarian Every Year”. Only two clubs were. Four clubs were given sustaining recognition certificates. Twenty-two clubs were recognized for participating.

Happy/Sad Bucks:

Bob F. Visited Maine last week and. participated in the Ellsworth Maine Rotary benefit to

 support the local Food Pantry.

Usama Received building permit to remodel “Wendy’s” in Hyannis

Paul Viridian has extended enrollment in their discounted rate program to November 30th.

 Monomoy Regional High School’s Interact Club is up and running with ten to twelve

 students signed up.

Barbara The District did a good job with this year’s Paul Harris Dinner. The food was good and

Speaker was excellent! She began cleaning out mother’s house and found a picture of a very young Anthony Baroni that was on a holiday greeting card which was circulated to the group.

Jeff Niece is living at the house. To restore quiet at the house Jeff got her a car so she

 could work at Stop & Shop and get a 2nd job at Radio Shack. The house is now quiet.

 His niece is so busy she has even lost weight.

Howard The Masquerade Ball was a great financial success.

Juan “The reason that women and children are asked to leave a sinking ship first is to test

 the strength of the lifeboats”.

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**Tom Perrino introduced Today’s Guest Speaker – Bill Burkhead**

**Principal of Monomoy Regional High School**

Bill Burkhead is the new principal Monomoy Regional High School which began its first year

in a new facility in September of this year. Bill spoke about the challenge of merging two pre-existing schools into to one high performing institution. Bringing two communities together – Chatham and Harwich – is a priority.

He has spent twenty years in education since graduating from Springfield College. Bill lives with his family in Plymouth and researched Cape Cod for three months before applying for the position at Monomoy. Bill was drawn to Monomoy by the challenge of a brand new school and wants this job to be his last. He was principal at New Bedford High School prior to moving to Monomoy.

Bill’s #1 priority is to merge the culture and initiate change. He likes the book by author Jim Collins – “Good to Great”. The book focuses on the pursuit of excellence. Bill’s test of success is that he could place his child in this new classroom setting. He promotes an environment where good on-time attendance, a strong work ethic, and being a good person are basic expectations.

Each student is given a laptop computer and communicates on twitter. There has been student instruction on how to use social media and the type of content they should not put on these public sites. Bill often says ‘enthusiasm is free and contagious.” On the flip side’ negativity is free and contagious” as well.

Employment of a three point value system is a hallmark of Bill’s philosophy which is that you should be the best person that you can be (integrity), be the best student you can be and be the best community citizen with participation the Interact Club as an example. What he says is for everyone – “rules for all” – whatever it takes to help students succeed.

Visitors are invited to the school for a tour. No doubt they will be impressed.

Door Prize was donated by John Stetkis and won by Barbara Amidon

50/50 won by Rob McPhee - $20 but no ace of spades

**Scribe**

**Rick Hawes**

**2014-2015 Officers**

Anthony Quinn, President Paul Anastasio, President- Elect

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