**The Whipping Post**

Rotary meeting held 11/6/14

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**Breaking News!!!**

Our honored guests for the day: Fred Colson, current Economic Development Committee member, President of the Westleigh Association and former CFO of Forman School! Welcome!!

This meeting was our Club Assembly and after some discussion we decided to start our reporting at the bottom of the list for a change and, as we all know, Litchfielders don’t like change

The Sunshine Committee report given by Lynn Cossette. The Sunshine Committee sends good wishes from Rotary when significant things happen to people in our community. As of now, we have nothing currently requiring the sprinkling of sunshine.

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The Social/Holiday Party report given by Dan Ferrara: As last year’s Holiday Party went so well at the Village, we will be having a repeat performance. Editorial note: YUM!! Dates were thrown around with a tentative date selected of December 12, 2014. (By the way, last year’s party was Tuesday 12/10/13 – you can call off the information hounds, I have found the date!). We are looking at having a cash bar this year and a repeat of our auction. Put your thinking caps on people! We are going to need auction items/services. Thank you Dan for doing a wiz-bang job with last year’s auction and coordinating it once again.

Youth Exchange report given by Lynne Anderson – Lynne has reached out to our local Interact Club. Hopefully we will have an exchange student this year!

SCORE report given by Teresa Spring: Teresa has signed up for some training.



Salvation Army report given by Teresa Spring and Bob Kluge: Bell ringing is from 11/28/14-12/24/14. Teresa has spoken with the Interact Club about bell ringing. The Interact Advisor has the sign-up sheet and will be returning it to Teresa shortly. Make sure you have your wool socks ready because it will be our turn to sign up! Forman School had approached Lynne Alexander in the spring about volunteer opportunities for their students to fulfill their public service component. Teresa will reach out to Forman to see if we can bring in some new ringers!

The Harwinton Salvation Army will be joining the Litchfield Area Service Unit so there will be more funds raised that will come back to help needy people in our area!

Red Cross report given by Ted Murphy: Ted will get the whole schedule so we can warn people early when we will need muscles to set up and break down for the Blood Mobile. The next one may be this month – Ted will confirm the date for us.

Military Service Project reported by Lynne Alexander: We had applied for a district grant to create and place banners to recognize the active duty military personnel in our community. We did not receive the grant in 2014, but can reapply in 2015.

Interact/RYLA reported by Robert Van Wyck: Rob is taking over for former Rotarian, Deb Wheeler. Per Cliff Cooper’s suggestion, Rob will contact the Interact advisors and touch base with Forman School about possibly forming their own Interact club.



The Greenway Project reported by Cliff Cooper and Ted Murphy: Drumroll please!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

After 25 years in the making, the Greenway project (Ghost Trail edition) has been approved by Litchfield P&Z. Cliff and Ted Murphy will be the guest speakers during an upcoming meeting and make a presentation to the Club about the Greenway. The next step in the project will be the fundraising so work can begin in the spring. Drainage, clearing, signage and a stone dust surface are just some of the items that will be needed to make that happen. Cliff is looking to raise approximately $20,000 to make the Ghost Trail section of the Greenway a reality. He suggested the possibility of a grant through Rotary might be something to consider.

Fun fact: Rotary was the very first sponsor of the Greenway 25 years ago!

Morris Food Bank Food Drive reported by Bob Kluge: last year we helped support the Morris Food Pantry and will be doing so again this year. Last year we were able to donate approximately $1,000 worth of cash and items to the Food Pantry! Yeah us! Bob passed around a list of items needed. Ted Murphy suggested contacting the Bantam Lake Protective Society to see if they could distribute to their members for exposure. If you know anywhere that we could collect or advertise, please contact Bob.

Earth Day: We will address this in the spring.

Career Day as reported by Mickie Budny: Mickie and Dave Pavlick will reach out to Litchfield High School about career day which usually takes place in March.

Rotary Foundation/Paul Harris Award as reported by Bob Doyle: The Foundation is the gifting arm of Rotary. There is a program starting where Rotarians can make periodic payments to fund their annual donation. Bob can also accept donations or members can send donations in directly – just be sure to notate our club #6924 on the donation. Our club goal is to have each club member donate $25.00. Bob will be bringing information on the Foundation and Paul Harris Award to the meetings going forward. If anyone is interested in being on the Rotary Foundation/Paul Harris Award committee, please see Bob.

Public Relations/Website report submitted by Chuck Conn via written report. His goal is to increase the Club’s visibility within the community through advertising and our website. He will be reaching out to John McKenna to see about coverage.

Membership: Ron Swanson and Raj Patel – neither were in attendance, but we can report 27 active members and a possible new member.

Litchfieldopoly as reported by Bob Kluge. They are on **SALE** people and Christmas is coming! They are currently $20 a piece with approximately 100 left in stock. Bob is looking for locations where we can possibly sell them. We did have them at the Morris Marketplace but did not sell any. ☹

Guest Speakers: If you have any names, please forward them to Sky Post.

Save the date: Next year’s golf tournament will be on 05/22/2015!!

Ron is our Golf Committee Chair with

Bob Kluge as vice Chair.

Beverage Booth: Calendar until spring

Basketball Game as reported by Ted Murphy. Ted is working on a date and has 2 sponsors already!

Endowment Fund as reported by Sue Voghel: we have interviewed 2 foundations to handle our endowment fund. A full presentation to the Club is forthcoming.

Donations and Gifting Committee: as reported by Mitchell Fishman, the donations committee is making two donation recommendations to the Board: $250.00 to Doctors without Borders to help with the Ebola outbreak and $250 to the Possum Queen Foundation which helps with local needs caused by health care expenses. It was suggested that the Greenway be considered as a donation recipient.

Woot Woot! No fines today just happy dollars!

Mitchell Fishman won our raffle, but the elusive Queen of Spades is remaining elusive!

Adjourned 1:42 pm