Grapevine

Rotary Club of Naples, NY

Lunch Meeting, January 30, 2017

Though the temperature remained chilly, that sunshine finally came through today, as 17 members, plus 2 guests, gathered for our last meeting of January. Where did January go? My, how the time seems to fly, but that's okay, Spring will be here before we know it! President Bo started us off with The Pledge, and per Mike's request, Jack got us off to another patriotic start, as we joined him in singing God Bless America. Mike Slovak said our Blessing, and in so doing, he asked The Good Lord to help us to continue to be a shining light, and to seek every opportunity we can to help others. Sounds like a good plan for daily living! Bo introduced our special guests, Joanne Sheehan, the Foundation Representative for Area 3, and Mike Slovak, our District Governor-Elect Nominee.

As some adjustments and modifications were being made to our technical equipment, a few announcements were made in the meantime. John F. spoke first, and told us that Monte Carlo Night will be Saturday, March 11th, from 7 P.M. to 10P.M. Anyone wishing to help may contact John, Sherry, or Sonja Wood-Baker. This is a wonderful fund-raiser which benefits Hospeace House. Next, Pastor Linda, an avid Pats fan, invited us all for a "Pre" Super Bowl party at the parsonage this Sunday, February 5th, from 4 until 6. You are welcome to bring snacks and refreshments of your own choosing, and , of course, feel free to stay longer if you wish! Jack shared the news that he had received a note from Tom Pawluk. Tom had expressed hope that Naples Rotary would come up with a team again this year to golf in the Annual Margery Pawluk Cancer Fund Golf Tourney, which will be held June 9th. Tom had said, "Go, Rotary, and God Bless you al!" I think we can fill that bill! Donna Scott talked about the Grape Fest 2017. The first meeting for the committee will be February 8th at 10:00 A.M. at Monier Manor. Finally, Patrice spoke about the Spelling Bee. We have pulled together a team! The "Queen Bees" will be attempting to spell those challenging words on Sunday, February 6th, at 1:00, at the Geneva High School Auditorium. Come and cheer us on if you can!! The team consists of Judy, Carrie, and Pat. Wish us luck!

Our program today was presented by Joanne Sheehan, or Foundation Rep for Area 3, as mentioned earlier. Joanne's presentation was about the Rotary Foundation, and I think she may have answered many questions that we have had concerning The Foundation, and Grants: specifically, Global Grants (GG), and District Simplified Grants (DSG). The three areas that The Foundation focuses upon are Educational, Humanitarian, and Polio Plus. Donations can be made to The Annual Programs Fund, The Endowment Fund, or The Restricted Fund(s) I.E. Polio Plus. (Joanne reports that, to date, 2 billion children have been immunized!) The Foundation has 6 areas of focus where it operates. They are 1. Peace/Conflict Prevention/Resolution 2. Disease Prevention/Treatment 3. Water/Sanitation 4. Maternal/Child Health 5. Basic Education/Literacy and 6. Economic/Community Development. DSG are for smaller scale projects and activities, whereas GG are for larger scale and long term projects. One may ask, "Why donate to The Rotary Foundation?" The answer is simple. "It's because Rotary works!" states Joanne. According to Charity Navigator, Rotary received a Four-Star rating (the highest) in terms of how our donations are used. In the efforts of Rotary to eradicate polio, promote peace and help economically, it has made, and will continue to make a difference in people's lives! One can make a donation by going to the website: wwwRotary.Org/Give. Other ways in which one can donate are at weekly meetings, having an amount taken periodically out of one's checking account, or estate planning. Mike said that he would be glad to help us with ideas for Grants. There will be some seminars coming up, regarding Grants, should anyone be

interested in learning more. To obtain ideas, one can also go on the District Website to see what other clubs have done. Mike also said that PDG Bill Gormont would do a Global Grants Program if our club would so desire. Many, many thanks Joanne and Mike, for providing such excellent information for us today!!

Diane, Shanna, Donna, Alex, Steve, Blanche, and Al had missed meetings. Donna, Steve, and Frank didn't have their badges, and I believe Donna said she had a new car. Joanne apologized for her temperamental computer! So many of us were pleased with today's program and the opportunity to have our questions answered as well. Bill C. was glad for his kids' help. Donna has new flooring at MM. Alex's daughter, Kelsey, has been visiting. Mike tells us that The District Conference of 2019 will be family-oriented! Jack and Sharon had been to Staten Island to see Jacob run. Frank's son is taking part in The Empire State Games. Al appreciates Marian, who, not being too far behind him, shares his zest for life. Pastor Linda is going on a cruise. Pat and Bo enjoyed having the grandkids overnight. Bo got a chuckle from an ad on T.V. this morning featuring a hand with 4 rings. Will Tom Brady collect a 5th ring at the Super Bowl this year? There is "one finger" that still needs a ring. (You do the math!) Lastly, both Joanne and Mike were glad to be with us today.

Blanche's ticket, #605, was drawn today, and she fetched the Ace of Spades from the pack. John F. had our Win-Win for us today. In 1916, the first Non-English speaking Rotary Club was chartered. It was Cuba! Next week, Jack tells us, our program presenter will be Petra Page-Mann. Have a good week, everyone, and we'll see each other at noon for our first meeting of February! P.S. Have you noticed lately, that the days are getting longer? Yeah!!

Finally, a couple of pictures: On the left are DGN Mike Slovak and Joanne Sheehan, but I don't know the character with the Canadian Tuxedo. Frank sent me a picture of Meghan's Gold Medal. Nice!