

Grapevine

Rotary Club of Naples, NY

Dinner Meeting, January 9, 2017

Happy New Year to everyone! In spite of the bitter temperature outside, it was warm and toasty inside The Redwood, as 28 of us, plus our guests, gathered for our first meeting of 2017. Bo started us off with The Pledge, and Jack led us in America, The Beautiful. In his Blessing, Jamie thanked The Lord for the warmth in our hearts, and the opportunity to serve others in the New Year. Our guests were introduced and that included Sharon, wife of Jack, Kathleen, wife of Frank, and Katie, wife of John B. Our special guest, and speaker for the evening, was Tammy Hicks, our Town Supervisor.

Before our program, a few announcements and items took place. Beautifully written Thank You Notes from the third graders were passed around for us to read. They really seemed to have appreciated the dictionaries we gave them! Jack said that next week's noon meeting will feature our own Naples' star, Meghan Musnicki, who will take time out of her busy schedule to spend with us. Jack also said that our slate is filled for programs until February! Thanks, Jack, for all your fine efforts in this department! Jane also brought in a newspaper clipping telling of spay and neutering programs for Ontario County residents-pets, that is! Pastor Linda announced that this evening, 1/9, there would be a traditional Martin Luther King service at Trinity at 7:00. Alex said that the Community Calendars are now available at The Naples Library, and there are extras if people wish. John F. told us that the 5th Annual Vintage, Vines, and Valentines will take place on 2/11.

Roberta introduced our special guest tonight, Naples Town Supervisor, Tammy Hicks. Tammy, who has worked for the village for 17 years, took the podium, and gave us "A State of the Town" Address. She expressed sincere thanks for all that Rotary does for the community. She stated that Naples is a community where people go above and beyond, and she mentioned several groups, including Rotary, that aim to serve and help others. In her talk, Tammy covered many points of interest, and it seems appropriate to list these ideas in bullet form.

- The Village is looking at new technology... "Green Tech". The facility will resemble a greenhouse.
- The Town Highway Department is doing a great job maintaining our roads. Improvements are being planned for County Road 36.
- The Town is not plowing County Roads. South Bristol and Canadice are picking up the slack.
- The Naples Ambulance currently has a staffing deficiency. Volunteers are very much needed.
- The Town Water District is in formation.
- The Town of Naples is being involved in a New Wind Farm Proposal.
- Repairs are being made to The Memorial Town Hall. The Ontario County Historical Society is being involved.
- High speed internet is being considered.
- Regarding The Community Park, work is being done on getting lights for Schenk Field.
- New construction of homes is taking place in the area.
- Plans are in the making to create a Nature Conserve on land which is near Parrish Hill Road.
- New trees have been planted in The Park.
- The Naples Library has become an independent entity.
- They are striving to improve The Code Enforcement response time.
- Since Bill V.'s passing, we need to look for a new Town Historian.

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At the completion of Tammy's report, a question and answer period followed. Thanks to Tammy for a very informative talk. I think we all are enlightened as to all the positive things that are taking place in our vibrant little community!

There were not too many fines today. Jack, Matt, and Adam had missed meetings. Matt and Adam had been on trips. Skip and Judy had had a "Getaway Weekend" at Niagara Falls. Practically everyone had put in a Happy Bill for our most interesting program. Alex is looking forward to the birth of her grandson. Bill's and Carrie's Charlie received his hunting license. Frank was pleased to have heard our Oratorical Contestants speak last Friday. The students did a fine job! Carrie's ticket was drawn tonight for our Win/Win. She selected the King of Diamonds. John Murphy's Historical Moment was to ask if anyone knew of any organizations that had been in Naples, but are no longer in existence. Two answers were The Lions and The Odd Fellows! Once again, Happy New Year to all, and may 2017 hold many blessings for each and every one of you! Though it's the MLK holiday, on Monday, the 16th, we'll still gather together for our noon meeting. See you then!