

Grapevine

Rotary Club of Naples, NY
Spring Dinner, April 9, 2018

Tonight was our Annual Spring Dinner at the South Bristol Fish and Game Club, and though it refuses to be Spring outside, the atmosphere inside was warm and pleasant! Thirty members, plus two to become members, plus seven guests filled the place with merriment, laughter, and chatter! We congregated and conversed as a delicious meal, prepared by Julie, from Café Sol, awaited us.

Our meeting was begun by President John, who led us in The Pledge, and we were fortunate to have a large picture of Our Flag on the screen, to salute, thanks to him! P.E. Jack carried our voices through God Bless America this evening. We bowed our heads to pray with Jamie, as he reminded us that the Naples Rotary has been coming together for the Spring Dinner since 1939! In his eloquent style, he asked The Lord to continue to bless our efforts, as we continue to strive to serve others. A spokesperson for each table was asked to introduce the guest(s). Joining us this evening were: Katie B., Peggy L., Sharon F., Terry G., Jan M., Jim S., and Dan M.

Here are some items to mark on your calendar: Rotary Lite will be on 4/11, at 6:30 at Brew and Brats. The District Training Assembly will be on 4/14, from 7:30 AM-1:30 PM, at the Avon High School. The Noon Meeting on 4/16 will feature Kelly Davidson from the Voce Canto Chorale. There will also be a Board

Meeting on 4/16, at 10:15 AM. Rotary Lite will again meet on 4/18, at Brew and Brats at 6:30PM. Club Assembly #4 will be hosted by PE Jack at the Noon Meeting on 4/23. The Program for the Noon Meeting on 4/30 will be The Naples Library, hosted by Judy S. and Carrie. And...if you're thinking about May, don't forget the District 7120 Conference in Saratoga is May 4th-6th!

Billy spoke next about the Trout Derby. He said that though it was Easter Sunday, there were 286 entries! The largest fish caught was 8.86 pounds, while the "Catch and Release" fish garnered a length of 25 and $\frac{3}{4}$ inches! Billy reported that we've "netted" around \$2500! He also expressed his thanks to all who donated to our annual event.

Tonight, we inducted two new, and very worthy members into the Naples Rotary Club. Sponsored by John and Sherry French, we welcomed our newest members, Lauren Maynard and Bill Shepard. Lauren and Bill, both of whom work at Arbor Hill, are no strangers to Rotary. Lauren was a part of Rotaract while in college, and Bill's dad had been in Rotary. "Learn all you can, and grow in leadership," said President John. "Being in Rotary, we are part of something bigger than ourselves, as we grow in our understanding of others." We don't doubt for a moment that Lauren and Bill will be viable members, and that they will bring much energy to the Naples Rotary Club! Welcome aboard!



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Jamie took the floor next to present the Robert Allen Award. This is an award that is germane to the Naples Club. Jamie gave a brief history upon which this award is based. Robert Allen started the Naples Rotary Club back on 2/11/39, which was its "charter night". I wish to say that being this year's recipient of the award, I am both gratified and humbled. My heartfelt thanks goes to each of you for choosing me. You are my "Rotary Family"!

Jack spoke about the Naples Angels. On Saturday, April 28th, Trinity Church is holding a Mexican Dinner! The cost is \$10 for a platter, and \$8 for a plate. Both will feature Mexican delights such as tacos and enchiladas. The proceeds from this fundraiser will go to help the Naples Angels, as they try to offer assistance to those in need in the community. See Jack or Sharon if you are interested in purchasing tickets or in making a donation.

John Murphy announced that the first Walking Tour with our Town Historian will be at 3:00 on 4/22. "Bring your walking shoes!" John advised.

Here were a few more announcements. Pres. John reminded us about Monte Carlo Night on Saturday, April 21st. No doubt, you will have probably received your postcard in the mail! The Hospice House will hold an Open House on 4/29, from 12PM-4PM. Its doors will open in May! Penny also mentioned the upcoming St. Jan's 5-K Run, which will be held later this month.

Oodles of thanks to Skip and Judy for coordinating tonight's lovely event! The Spring Dinner seems to usher in this wonderful season for each of us! Have a great week, everyone!

