

Grapevine

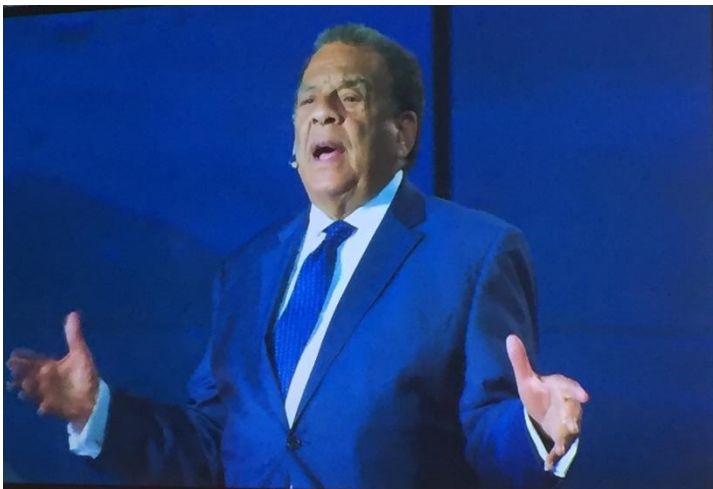
Rotary Club of Naples, NY
Lunch Meeting, February 19, 2018

Spring, how you have been teasing us! Judging from today's mild temperatures, it seems like we have a week of glorious warm weather in store for us! How nice for all those on "school break" too! Today, 25 members, plus three fine guests, gathered for our Noon meeting at The Redwood. I must offer a word of "thanks" to President John, as he provided me with a very helpful outline of today's meeting agenda. This certainly helped my "note-taking" to be more efficient!

We began our meeting by joining John in reciting The Pledge. Our song leader, Jack, led us in a tune that we haven't sung in a while...it was "You're A Grand Ole Flag"! Steve, who did our Invocation, always seems to find just the right words to offer praise and thanks to The Lord for His Blessings upon us, and upon the work that we do, in our service to others. Today, we welcomed three guests, which included Dennis Pulver, guest of Gary, Dylan, son of Andrea, and Mary Kathryn, granddaughter of Nancy.

As there was no immediate mail to share today, John went right to our calendar items. "Rotary Lite" will be held this Wednesday evening, 2/21, at Brew and Brats at 6:30. A sign-up sheet was circulated for the 2/26 Meeting at Ferris Hills. Meal information will be forthcoming. The District Training Assembly will be 4/14, at Avon High School. This is a half-day session, and is an excellent opportunity for members and new members to get a "taste" of the many avenues Rotary follows. The District Conference will be the first weekend in May in Saratoga, and the International Conference will be held in Toronto later in June. FYI! John tells us that the International Conferences for 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 will be held in Germany, Taiwan, Hawaii, and Texas respectively. (Maybe it's a good idea to sign up for this year's IC! It's fairly close to home!!)

Here are some additional items that were on today's agenda. John F. gave a brief summary of today's Board Meeting items. We will present a check, in the amount of \$75, to Emma Lincoln, for her participation in the Vocal Contest. The Board voted to accept Option B. regarding the Cub Scouts. (This is where our organization will defer the decision on family scouting to the volunteers of our Pack Committee). Members, be looking for an E-mail regarding the proposal of a new member. We may be bringing back a Chicken BBQ at the Lucky Ducky Derby to acquire funds. Also, this is a reminder that dues are due to Susan. Billy passed around a sign-up sheet for workers at the Trout Derby, which will be coming up April 1st. Kayc reports that we collected and delivered 500 Valentines For Vets this year! What a nice tribute to these folks!!



Our program this noon was to have remained a "mystery" until the actual meeting took place. President John was in charge of the presentation, and it was truly an inspiring one! John had attended the International Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, last year. He showed us a video from that Conference that featured a very inspiring and motivational address by Andrew Young, former Mayor of Atlanta. Prefacing his talk with the remark that "Rotary is putting the last few touches on the eradication of polio", he began to tell us of his

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philosophy on life, and how he looks upon the world. At 85 years of age, he remembers growing up in times of “tough realities”. He gave praise to his parents, who taught him love and respect for neighbors, and to his grandmother, who was a reader of The Bible. Throughout his speech, he referred to Martin Luther King, as he urged his listeners to use the talents and treasures they were given in life to help others. “Faith can overcome anything”, he said, “and we must take responsibility to initiate change”. He urged his audience to live by The Four-Way Test, saying that honesty, humility, love and forgiveness can bring about positive change(s) in the world. He urged us to be instruments of that change, and he concluded his delivery by saying that “Rotary is the software that makes the world a better place”! It was so nice that John was able to stream today’s meeting via Facebook, as I’m sure those who couldn’t be with us would enjoy hearing this encouraging message. Thank you, John, for providing us with a great program today!

We had a few fines this noon. Pat’s phone played a little concert. Apparently, Bo’s phone went off also, as did John’s. Jack didn’t have his badge. Billy had had fun at the casino for his 40th! Deb, Robin, and Jane had missed meetings. We had many happy Bills today! Many were pleased with the program. Nancy was glad to have Mary Kathryn with her. Shanna, Skip, and Judy were glad that their kids and grandkids were in the School Spelling Bee. Andrea was happy to have Dylan with her. Robin was celebrating 18 years of being ordained. Billy and Carrie had fun celebrating Billy’s 40th! Bill C. was glad to be here. Bo was hoping to get some golf in this week. Pres. John was glad for technology!

The kitty was up to \$77! Kat’s ticket, #2481, was picked. And she drew the Ten of Clubs! Our Win-Win question, via Pres. John, was: When was the first Presidents’ Day established? The answer was 1885! Nancy had a Rotary Moment for us. She had found a book of matches commemorating Naples Rotary’s 50th!!

Next meeting promises to be a special one for sure! Seems like there is a nice number of members signed up to attend! Have a great week, everyone! See you on the 26th!