

Grapevine

Rotary Club of Naples, NY
Lunch Meeting, January 15, 2018

B-r-r-r! This frigid weather sure has persisted over the last few days! Yet, hasn't it been a beautiful sight to see Winter's Glory flow over our Naples' hills? We had 20 members come for today's meeting, which happened to be Martin Luther King Jr. Day, as well. President John began the meeting, as we joined him in saying The Pledge. Since our song leader, Jack, couldn't be with us today, our own Mike took over! Out from the "archives", came the Rotary Songbooks, and we polished our voices, as we sang "You're A Grand Old Flag" and "Yankee Doodle Dandy"!



Now those two songs certainly were a tribute to MLK, on his special day! It was fun to sing a couple of songs! Our invocation was said by Steve today. He thanked The Lord for helping us to get through this nippy Winter. He also asked for His Graces to continue with our service(s) to others. We also welcomed our special guests, Ethan, and Phoebe, our outgoing exchange student this coming year to Austria.

President John had a few items to share from "The Mailbag". Thankfully, Sherry is home now, from the hospital, and doing better. More Thank You Notes from the third graders were circulated, expressing their appreciation for the dictionaries. It was really fun to read their various sentiments! A beautiful banner, created by the sixth graders, was also received, as it thanked us for the thesauruses. What a splendid job these youngsters did! Rotary Lite will be this Wednesday Night! Six-thirty is the time! John, how's that for a rhyme? New Member Introduction will be on 1/22. We will have our 3rd Club Assembly on 1/29. There are 11 members going to the District Conference at this time, and there are six members planning to go to the International Convention in Toronto. January is deemed as Vocational

Service Month. John reminded us to leave some parking space for regular Redwood customers who may need to park closer to the restaurant. The Cub Scouts, Pack 40, will come and do a program for us at some point in the not-too-distant future. A check in the amount of 100 dollars will go to Hospeace House in memory of Warren's mother. Skip was curious as to whether anyone had time to help with shoveling at Hospeace House. This Thursday, there will be a Benefit Concert to support Hospeace House, at Brew and Brats, from 6-9 P.M. The proofs for the Community Calendar are in hand. Frank handed out calendars for the Camp Onseyawa Summer Events for 2018. This included the Camp Experience in August, and the Golf Tournament in June. Thanks for all your hard work, Frank!

In lieu of our scheduled program, today, which would have been Jessica Middleton, representing Bristol Hills 4-H Camp, our own Jodi (Simons-Caruso) stepped up to the plate! Since Jodi is relatively one of our newer members, President John asked her if she would tell us a little bit about herself, and that, she did!

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Jodi, who grew up in Dansville, has had a very colorful and interesting life. She had always enjoyed art, and she went to Geneseo, earning a Fine Arts Degree. Near the end of her college career, she went to Florida



to hear the band, "The Grateful Dead" perform. She told us that she was "blown away" by the atmosphere at the concert, and that she was impressed by the "back to nature" way of living that she encountered while there. Being very resourceful, Jodi found that she could earn extra money by making clothes, using her grandmother's sewing machine. Eventually, she settled down, and began raising her family. She taught Art Classes at BOCES, and Yoga. In 2004, she opened up her studio, "Open Arms Yoga", here in Naples. She even went on to BOCES to teach Children's Yoga! Jodi has four children, and she and her family are living on Route 53, where Arnie and Donna Schwartzmeier used to live. Jodi, being a compassionate person, rescues stray animals, and tries to find safe homes for many of her "foundlings". She has been with the Cub Scouts for five years, as the Den Leader for Pack 40. She says the Scouts' philosophy is quite similar to that of Rotary. They are all about Service! Jodi is an exemplary Rotarian, and an asset to the Club, as evidenced by her own philosophy on life... "Every time you meet somebody, you have a chance to make an impression on their lives, and in their hearts!" Thank you. Jodi, for doing such an excellent job on the spur of the moment!

Today's Fines were as follows: John B.'s and John F.'s phones went off during the meeting. Pres. John also had to be reminded, (by Carrie), about the school letters. Mike, Bill C., Alex, Deb, and Jodi had missed meetings.

Today's Happy Bills were as follows: The majority of us gave a "thumbs up" to Jodi for her wonderful extemporaneous talk. Billy and Carrie are proud of their new pups. Carrie and Matt, along with several others, were glad to have Phoebe with us. John F. is glad to have Sherry home. Mike was glad to be here, and feeling better. Bill C. visited his daughter in Connecticut. Deb was glad that she did Yoga with Jodi. Bo reminisced about Donna and Arnie, Great-Grandparents of Phoebe!

Ace of Hearts today: Our Kitty was starting all over again at 8.00! Phoebe drew Frank's ticket, #2893. Frank drew the King of Diamonds!

Our Win-Win today: Thinking that we were going to host Jessica this noon, Pres. John had a 4-H question for us. (Finally, it was one I knew!) The 4-H Motto includes the words, heart, hands, health, and head! Those of us who had kids in 4-H, or if you were part of Phyllis Rathbun's Willing Workers wouldn't forget that!!

Our Rotary Moment today was a cute story provided by Tom Hawks. While watching his little granddaughter, Ali, Tom received a call from John about the Board Meeting. Ali asked Tom what a Board Meeting was, and he proceeded to tell her about it. "Sounds boring!" replied Ali. She then asked him to tell her about Rotary, to which she replied, "Can I come to a meeting sometime?"

That concludes this week's bulletin. Stay warm, everyone, and we'll see you all, hopefully, on the 22nd!