

Grapevine

Rotary Club of Naples, NY
Lunch Meeting, January 22, 2018

Not only did that mild weather put us in good spirits today, but so did the return of four members who have been away for a while! We gladly welcomed Brenda, Vicky, Al, and John M. back after a long hiatus! Those



Four Friends added to the group made a total of 25 Rotarians who met for our noon meeting. We began our meeting by joining President John in reciting The Pledge. Our Song Leader, Jack, was back today, and he led us in a nice round of God Bless America. John called upon our Steve to give the Invocation. Steve thanked Our Heavenly and Merciful Father for all His blessings upon us, and he asked Him to help us to continue to do good in the world. We had no guests to speak of today, but we gave a hearty round of applause to Brenda, Vicky, Al, and John! We were thankful to John (M.) for fetching Al, and bringing him to the midday meeting.



Using the large screen picture of us singing from the Songbooks last week, President John used that image as a springboard to share The Mailbag and Calendar Items: There was a note from The Naples Valley Visitors' Association, thanking us for our support in the past. The annual Vintage, Vines, and Valentines event will be held on 2/10. Dave Cheney, representing The Scouts will be here with us on 1/29. There will be a Club Assembly on 2/5. The next Rotary Lite will be 2/7, at Brew and Brats. John B. offered to handle the (announcements of) meetings on FB. President-Elect Jack, will be attending the PETS Training next month. There are currently 11 members signed up for the District Conference. John would like to see a dozen! Perhaps there is another taker?



Joyce took the floor next and spoke about the Oratorical Contest. The District has requested that Naples host the Semi-Finals which will be held on 2/10. Through the course of the meeting, we learned that the Naples High School Auditorium will be available on that day. Also, Prattsburgh (Rotary) will sponsor our 3rd contestant. We will have three girls from Naples taking part in the speaking contest. Joyce also asked if some members could bake cookies for that day. I think she will have some takers!

There were some additional announcements: Skip received word from Carrie that Becky

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Conard had passed. Along with our deepest condolences, we passed the basket, and took up a collection for the family. John B. said that the Benefit Concert for Hospice House, (which was held last Thursday at Brew and Brats), was a great success! The Monte Carlo Night will be at the Maxfield Bingo Hall this year, and it will be a little later in the Spring, on 4/21. We will be doing a "Card Shower" for our friend, Marian, to cheer her up. Cards may be brought to the next meeting, and they will be mailed to Marian in a big bundle. The Community Calendars will soon be available for pick up at the Naples Library.

In lieu of today's regularly scheduled program, which would've been the 4-H Presentation, President John, who is quick-thinking, showed us a video in conjunction with January-Vocational Service Month. The theme was the History and Origin of Vocational Service. When Rotary was first begun, its focus was to promote each other's businesses, and to develop friendships. Over time, the focus led to vocational service, as opposed to "being content with isolationism". The speaker compared Rotary to being a tree, the trunk of support, and the branches being the various avenues of vocational service. This symbolism explained how important our services are to our communities, and throughout the world.

Today's Fines: We had many members toss some \$ in the basket due to missed meetings. They were Nancy, Brenda, John M., Al, Joan, Judy, and Joyce. Steve wasn't "sure" about this recent mild weather! Frank was glad that things were being straightened out in Congress.

Happy Bills Today: We were all very glad to see the Four Friends back at the meeting today! We were all pleased with John's "Program" on Vocational Service. We all congratulated Skip on the occasion of his birthday. Susan was glad that her granddaughter, Lauren was acclimating to the college life. Joyce was glad that things are working out in terms of the Oratorical Contest. Frank is looking for some more snow to be on the way. John F. said that the Euchre Party at B and B went well. Finally, speaking of John (F.), Tom likes those emerging whiskers! Whiskers are nice! P.S. All four...Brenda, Vicky, Al, and John M., are glad to be back also!

Ace of Hearts Today: Pat's ticket. #905, came up. Pat drew the Queen of Spades.

Our Win-Win Today was compliments of Bill C. Quarters from every direction clinked into the cans as we learned some facts about the California fires. There were 9,054 fires, and 1,381,000 acres were affected.

Our Rotary Moment Today was brought to us by Jack. Last Monday, Jack and Sharon had their little granddaughter, Madolyn, at the pediatrician's, as she was under the weather. Jack called it "Familial Responsibility", as they saw our own Judy come into the office with her own little grandchild, probably for similar reasons!

This concludes what I thought was going to be a shorter version this week, yet, actually, a great deal happened at today's meeting! Hope everyone has an enjoyable week, and we'll see you next time on the 29th at noon!