

Grapevine

Rotary Club of Naples, NY
Lunch Meeting, January 29, 2018

As the month of January has waned, it seems like Spring has been out there, trying to tease us a bit these last few days! One might even think that this was sometime in April, rather than the end of January around here! We had 22 members, plus two guests, gather for our Noon Meeting today. We began our meeting by joining President John in reciting The Pledge. Jack led us in the singing of The Star-Spangled Banner. Patrice said The Blessing, and thanked The Lord for our friendship, fellowship, and the opportunity to serve others. Our guests today were Beth Thomas, Town of South Bristol Historian, who was the guest of John Brahm. Our second guest was Dave Cheney, who represents the Boy Scouts of America, and who provided our program today.

President John continued with some items from The Mailbag. He briefly shared a very well-written letter from Phoebe Neubauer, our outgoing exchange student for 2018-2019. Phoebe had thanked us for the opportunity to attend a recent Rotary Meeting. I believe John will send each of the members a copy of Phoebe's letter to read, since it was a bit lengthy. The 2018 District Conference is scheduled for the first weekend in May, and currently, we have 11 members signed up to attend. John would like to see that number reach an even dozen if possible! The International Convention in Toronto will be June 23rd-June 25th. It's nice that it's so "close by" this year! Jack spoke briefly about the Rotary Vocal Competition, which was held on Jan 28th. Although our representative, Emma Lincoln, did very well, she faced some stiff competition, according to Jack. The Rotary Community Calendars are available for pick up at the Naples Library. Many thanks to John F. and his helpers for doing all the sorting! The 2018 Spelling Bee will be held at the Geneva High School on Feb. 11th. Bo and Pat plan to participate again this year. We could sure use a 3rd Team Member if anyone is interested!

Our own Jodi rose to the podium to speak briefly about the Naples Boy Scouts Pack 40, as a prelude to Dave's Program. Naples Rotary, as you know, is the chartered organization that supports this group of Scouts. Dave Cheney is now our representative. Using pictures, (shown on the large screen), Jodi gave examples of boys and girls both participating in various Scouting activities. The Naples Pack 40 includes boys and girls, and Jodi feels that the Boy Scouts should be inclusive. "Families' schedules are challenging nowadays, and this is a way of fostering time with family", claims Jodi. I think we would all agree!



Our Program Presenter, Dave Cheney, spoke to us next. Dave, who told us that "Scouting is in his blood", has been involved with Scouting programs through his own son and daughter. Families have asked for inclusion, and this new model that has begun in 2018, is a way that parents can be more involved with their sons and daughters simultaneously. Girls will be offered the same

opportunities as boys, and this gives both the chance to excel, and benefit from the experiences offered in the Cub Scouts. Dave distributed literature that further explains the New Model Options, and answers specific questions people may have. Thank you to Dave for a very interesting program!

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The Fines and Happy Bills came next on today's agenda. Diane, Deb, Tom and Gary each paid a fine for having missed meetings. Tom's cell phone rang, so there was another buck! Many happy Bills filled the basket in appreciation of today's program. Recalling how much she enjoyed hearing from others, Brenda liked the card idea for Marian. Matt was proud of Emma for singing in the Vocal Contest. Jodi's famous pigs, Bonnie and Clyde, have met their "match"! Robin, being a vegetarian, wondered about that! John F. appreciated the help with the calendars. Bill C. wondered what became of his ticket!

The Ace of Hearts turned out to be the Ace of Clubs today, as Pat's ticket, #944, was picked. Maybe I should've gone for the right or left of the pack, instead of the middle!

President John had our Win-Win for us today! The Boy Scouts of America was begun in 1910, and its founder was W. D. Boyce. Good item to keep in mind for a Jeopardy question!

Our "Rotary Moment" was also compliments of John! He said it was like a "Mini Rotary Meeting", as the group of teammates gathered at the Library to sort the calendars.

Many thanks to those who brought cards to cheer up Marian, and thanks to Skip for delivering them to her! Cards are, of course, still welcomed! Marian can hear from us at different times! Have a great week, everyone, and we'll see each on February 5th! I believe there will be a Club Assembly on that day.