

# Grapevine

Rotary Club of Naples, NY  
Evening Meeting, May 14, 2018

Tis a rainy afternoon, and just the right prompt to get me to sit down, and type this week's Grapevine! Hopefully, you will have this week's missive a day or so sooner! Last night was our Evening Meeting, and 24 members, plus six guests, gathered for dinner, and a very interesting program. The back dining room looked just lovely, as bouquets of colorful tulips adorned each table. It truly had been a beautiful Spring day yesterday!

President John opened our meeting, as we joined him in saying The Pledge. Our song leader, Jack, was away this evening, so John, with his equally melodious voice, took the reins, and led us in singing The Star-Spangled Banner. Susan gave The Invocation, and thanked The Lord for our fellowship, and for the many opportunities that we have to serve others. Our welcomed guests tonight included Jean McMillan, our AG from Wayland Rotary, Phoebe Neubauer, our outgoing exchange student to Austria, Kathleen Duserick, Katie Brahm, Rich Comins, our program presenter, and his friend, Karen Collins.

In terms of The Mailbag, there was only one item which John passed around. It was a sweet Thank You Note from Kayc's Kindergarten class, thanking us for the trees. Concerning The Calendar, Skip expressed his thanks to all who helped with the Lucky Ducky Derby last Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. Skip said that around 730 tickets were sold! Susan will have the numbers for us soon. On June 11<sup>th</sup>, the Australian Rotarians are arriving for the Friendship Exchange. John was contemplating our having a "joint meeting" with the Naples and Wayland Clubs while these visitors are here, so please "stay tuned". Frank said that there were still some Camp O. Raffle Tickets to sell. The date for the Camp O. Golf Tourney is June 9<sup>th</sup>. Matt reported that on May 24<sup>th</sup>, there will be a presentation in the H.S. cafeteria entitled "Talk Saves Lives". The topic to be covered is suicide prevention. Matt also reminded us to vote on the school budget on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Prior to the program, we viewed a brief video on Youth Exchange. It was clear to see what a powerful impact an experience such as this has on a young person, judging from the positive feedback the narrator, (who was an exchange student himself), gave in the film. Claiming that it was a life-changing experience,

which he highly recommends, he thanked Rotary for the encouragement and support. I think this leads us all to think of Our Phoebe, as we wish her well in the upcoming year!



Today's Program was about The Shelter Boxes, and our presenter was Rich Comins. Founded in 2000, The Shelter Boxes provide relief to families in times of disaster. We viewed a film that showed how these Shelter Boxes, (which provide a temporary place to live), have helped people who have lost all or most of their possessions due to natural causes. Each box, which is assembled in Cornwall, England, contains necessary daily living items for families. The largest of its contents is a tent, which can house up to 10 people. Rich told us that, to date, about ½ million Shelter Boxes have been brought to 132 countries, including the USA! Each Unit weighs about 120 pounds and costs about \$1000 each. Rich brought a S.B. to the meeting for us to view, as well as its contents. In addition to a short film, Rich

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shared his own experiences in delivering S.B. to victims of disaster. He told us that donations and gifts of time and money are what have helped this relief program. A very sincere thank you goes out to Rich for your excellent presentation, and for all the work you have done to serve others!

Now it was time for our weekly Fines! Poor President John had had a very busy week, and somehow, Rich's name had slipped his mind! (I know how that is, John!) Bill C. had been in Connecticut. Roberta's phone rang. Warren got a new car! Blanche had been away. Bo snoozed during a talk at the D.C. Frank, Larry, Blanche, Robin, and Matt had missed meetings.

Next, came our Happy Bills! We were all glad to have Warren and Roberta back with us. We were all so pleased with the program. Bill C. was glad to have visited his daughter. Frank gave a tribute to all Moms. Larry liked John's solo. Blanche remembered Ulla Persson and Beth Flory. Robin's granddaughter graduated from college. Alex liked Sam Sherwood's and Aaron Lipp's program at BVT. Matt was glad to have Phoebe with us. He also reported to us that Elizabeth Maczynski, a Junior, will represent us at RYLA. Susan was glad to have her granddaughter spend time with her. Finally, Rich gave a "Thank You" to us for having him.

I really feel rather funny mentioning Ace of Hearts time! Ticket #3147 happened to be mine again! (I think this was the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in a row!) I am so sorry! I would like to see someone else have a turn next week! It's a good thing I drew the Ten of Spades, so someone else can have "a crack" at The Jackpot next week!

Our Win-Win question for the week was: How long does it take a group of Rotarians to stop 650 ducks? The answer is 43 minutes!! Finally, John made Our Rotary Moment be all the pictures that were taken at this past weekend's activities: Lucky Ducky Derby and Grove Boys Chicken Barbeque. Yum! Have a great week, one and all! See you on the 21<sup>st</sup> for our Noon Meeting.