

Grapevine

Rotary Club of Naples, NY
Lunch Meeting, May 21, 2018

Today was another gorgeous “May Day” in the Naples Valley, as 29 members and six guests gathered for our Noon Meeting. The front dining area of The Redwood was packed! Our sweet server, Becky, was kept busy! The meeting commenced with President John leading us in The Pledge. We joined our song leader, PE Jack, in singing God Bless America. In saying Grace, Steve gave honor to The Father, and asked The Lord to bless and guide us as we strive to do His work. We welcomed these guests today. They were Candace and Bill Ryan, our program presenters, Anne, our District Chair for Youth Exchange, Ethan, Chip, and Woody. Thank you for joining us today!

In terms of The Mailbag, there was a letter of thanks from Operation Build-Up for our donation of \$500. Carrie brought letters of thanks from Grades UPK through Six for the trees which we donated for Arbor Day. Many thanks to Skip for continuing this tradition.

Items for The Club Calendar are as follows: There will be no Rotary Lite this Wednesday, 5/23. Also, there will be no meeting on Monday, 5/28, as it is Memorial Day. The 6/4 Noon Meeting will feature Bill Gormont, who will be presenting “The Roadmap to International Service”. This will be a meeting we won’t want to miss!!

Here are some items from this morning’s Board Meeting: Regarding our Fundraisers, the Community Calendar netted \$1936. The Trout Derby netted \$2313. The Lucky Ducky Derby netted \$1797. The Board approved that we assign \$500 each year to our Budget to purchase a Shelter Box. The Board also approved that the Naples Rotary spend \$100 to purchase the 4th pup-tent for the Marching Band.

Here are some additional dates to keep in mind: John M. announced that the Naples Historical Society will hold its Spring Dinner at Roots Café on 6/13, at 6:00. John tells us that there is going to be a surprise program! The Canandaigua Lake Trout Derby Dinner will be on 6/1. Mercy Flight and Camp Good Days benefit from this. Our June Evening Meeting will be 6/11, and this will be a joint meeting with Wayland Rotary, as we will be hosting some visitors from Australia, who are part of The Friendship Exchange. There will be a “road trip” to Camp O. later this Summer for those of us who are interested. More on this later...



Bessie introduced our guest speakers, Candace and Bill Ryan, who represent the Finger Lakes Alzheimer’s Association. Their program today was both exceptional and emotional at the same time, as many of us have, or have had someone close to us who has suffered from this terrible disease. Bill and Candace each spoke from personal experience, as Bill’s Dad, Francis, had developed Alzheimer’s, subsequent to having suffered a stroke. Using their own experience with their dad, Bill and Candace talked about the early warning signs that might trigger concerns for a family member or friend that we suspect

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may be showing signs of early dementia. Though, at present, there is no cure for Alzheimer's, C. and B. spoke of awareness and ways one can thwart the onset of ALZ. Healthy eating, social interaction, physical activity, and mental stimulation are ways that we can keep our bodies and minds vibrant. There are programs and services available in Ontario County that are aimed at helping people and families afflicted with ALZ. On October 6th, there will be "A Walk to End ALZ" in Canandaigua. It is the first walk of the season in our area, and perhaps, some of us may be interested in participating. Awareness is important according to Candace, and she closed in saying, "Be the matter, great or small, do it well!" For more information, one can go to ALZ.Org. Thank you, both, for sharing your knowledge and insights with us! Thank you also, to Our Sweet Joan, for having the courage to share with the group that she, herself, has been dealing with the early symptoms of Alzheimer's.

Here were the Fines for this week: Tom, Bill, Donna, John M., Steve, Laurie, and Mike had missed meetings. Brenda had been on some lovely trips to Bermuda and Pennsylvania. Jack didn't have his pin. John F. forgot to mention guest, Anne. Penny was a tad bit late, and she had had a birthday. The Happy Bills literally "poured in" in praise of today's excellent program. Anne's son graduated from college. Shanna was for the kids. Many were glad to have Anne with us. Warren remembered Don Leysath. Donna's x-rays were good. John B. had three wines win accolades! Laurie remembered that May 21st was her parents' B.D. John F. was glad that the Board Meeting went well. Many were appreciative of Tom.

I can't believe that this was the fourth or fifth time my ticket was drawn for the Ace of Hearts! I think next week, I won't take any tickets, and simply turn in the money! I drew the King of Hearts, however, and the Kitty continues to grow! Bill C. had a win-Win for us that went back in time. It was a Naples Rotary Grapevine dated 8/1/88. Evidently, there were five members back then who are still with us today!



Bill and Carrie brought a guest to break some news for Naples about the Rotary Youth Exchange program. Anne Morrell from the Pal-Mac club said that we have an incoming exchange student from Spain. Host families are being sought out at this time. Also, she expressed her thanks to Phoebe for being our outgoing ambassador to Austria this coming school year.

I have saved this special segment for last as it not only serves as a "Rotary Moment", but it exemplifies the heart of a true Rotarian. Warren so aptly expressed this moment as "moral courage", that is, "to stand up, and do the right thing, in spite of the consequences". I am referring to our Tom Hawks, who recounted a difficult setback that he had had last week while driving home from an outing on the boat with friends. He encouraged us all to learn from his experience, and to be ever mindful of the responsibility we shoulder when we get behind the wheel. Thank you, Tom, for your humble admission of having made a mistake, and for giving us sage advice. We admire your courage! With that being said, I wish you all a very enjoyable Memorial Day Weekend, and we'll see each other in June!