

Grapevine

Rotary Club of Naples, NY
Dinner Meeting, November 13, 2017

We had a room full of jovial people this past Monday, as 30 members, plus several guests, gathered for our November Evening Meeting. President John began our meeting, as we joined him in reciting The Pledge. Jack led us in singing God Bless America, and with so many of us on hand, it sounded quite lovely! Our Blessing was said by our eloquent Jamie, who offered thanks to The Lord for “the room full of friendship”. He also asked that The Lord’s Blessing remain with us, as we continue to strive to serve others. We then welcomed our guests this evening, and that included Kit, David, Chris, Mindy, Frank, Katie, and Jan. Our special guests tonight were Wayne Buchar, and his wife, Christine. John led us in paying a very well-deserved tribute to Our Vets among us. That included Bill C., Frank, Warren, Larry, Skip, Lee, and Penny.

Mailbag and Important Dates: The Eastern Cities Fellowship Dinner is December 6th. Perhaps carpooling might be an option among some of the members who are planning to attend. Jamie shared a note from Polio Plus, thanking us for our contribution. Carrie told us that there might possibly be an outgoing exchange student for the 2018-2019 school year. That student would be Phoebe Neubauer. The first “Rotary Lite” Meeting was held this past Wednesday evening at Brew and Brats. Judy Schwartz will be returning to speak with us about the Girls’ School in South Sudan, on 11/20. Kelly Vandesande, our elementary school nurse, will join us on 11/27, and will talk about Operation Santa. ‘Tis getting to be the season! The Rotary International Conference is going to be held a bit closer to home this year. It will take place in Toronto! November has been Foundation Month.

It was time for Wayne to take the podium, and tell us about The Maxfield Inn. Wayne had always wanted to take on the challenge of renovating an older place, and the opportunity presented itself in The Maxfield Inn. Through the use of archives such as old photos and family trees, Wayne was able to give us a brief history of The Inn.



Its history includes four specific phases, when The Inn has been owned by different families in the Naples area. Phase One was from 1832-1859. The Luther Family moved in during this time, and many structural changes were added to the building. Phase Two of The Inn’s history was from 1866-1903. Further changes were made to the building during this time period also. In 1874, the house was completed. An

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article from 1881 told how the Maxfield Family bought the home. In 1878, The Carriage House was completed. Phase Three was between the years 1904-1925. In The Naples News of 1905, there was talk about some of the embellishments that were made in the home, such as the staircase and the fireplace. There is even a wine cellar that houses 1800 bottles of champagne! Phase Four encompasses the years 1926 to the present. In 1968, the house was sold to Sten and Ulla Persson, and they lived there for many years. Our own Laurie has a handle in the Inn's history, as she and Scott operated a Bed and Breakfast there in the early 90's! What is fascinating to learn of The Inn's history is that it served as part of The Underground Railroad during The Civil War, but the carriage house was probably not involved since documents indicate it was built a few years late. The Maxfield Inn is truly one of the most beautiful buildings in our community, and it was most interesting to learn of its history, and all of the physical changes that were made during the various phases. Thank you, Wayne, for presenting such an outstanding program!

Today's Fines: Missed Meetings: Leah, John M., Brenda, Blanche, Joan, Billy, Carrie, and Gary. Nancy had a recent birthday. Steve had been on a trip. Jack was without Sharon. Apparently, John's cell phone rang.

Today's Happy Bills: I think nearly 100 percent of those of us in attendance were very pleased with today's program! Jamie's and Bessie's son is doing better. Blanche is going to have knee replacement soon. Jacob, Jack's grandson, is doing remarkably well in his racing. John is glad that Sherry is recovering nicely. Gary, and all of us, are proud and appreciative of Our Vets!

The Ace of Hearts still eludes us! Kit drew Ticket 2600, which was Frank's. Frank fished the Nine of Spades from the deck!

Win-Win: President John asked us if Veterans Day has always been on November 11th. Evidently, Veterans Day was on the fourth Monday in October during the years 1971-1977. President Gerald Ford had moved the day of recognition back to November 11th!

Rotary Moment: Billy and son, Charlie were hiking in The Glen, and sure enough didn't they come upon a "stray duck" from the Lucky Ducky Derby! It was only half a duck, however!

Rotary Lite: This is just a quick word about "Rotary Lite". Our first meeting was this past Wednesday evening, hosted by John at Brew and Brats. Jack, Penny, Bo, and Pat attended. John said there are more members who are interested in coming, at a later date. We talked about upcoming dates on the Rotary calendar. Since Penny is one of our new members, we briefly filled her in on some of the events, in Rotary, that happen throughout the year. Jack suggested that we garner five topics for discussion at our next "RL" meeting. It was a pleasant, informal setting where we could exchange ideas. Thanks, John for your hospitality!

Sorry I'm so late getting this week's Grapevine out to everyone. It's been a busy week with lots of meetings! Have a great weekend, everyone! See you on Monday!