

Grapevine

Rotary Club of Naples, NY
Lunch Meeting, October 30, 2017

The Fall Chill was in the air today, but certainly warmth and fellowship abounded, as today's meeting proved to be another very busy one! Once again, this week, we had three extraordinary presentations by three more new members! Our Club is growing by leaps and bounds!

Opening Items: There were 25 members in attendance today, along with 3 guests. We joined President John in reciting The Pledge. Jack, (in a very attainable key), led us in singing The Star-Spangled Banner. Jamie said The Blessing, reminding us to "be a candle", as we spread our warmth and service unto others. We welcomed guests, Chip Weismiller, Sharon, wife of Jack, and Kathy, daughter of Bill C.

Mailbag: President John read 4 letters from Naples Central School, thanking us for our generous support in providing (4) Rotary Awards to (4) deserving students. This year's recipients are as follows. The Duane Schultz Memorial Rotary Award goes to Rennen Berberena. The Brad Clawson Memorial Rotary Award goes to Emmett Felton. The Tony Long Memorial Rotary Award goes to Seth Price. The Bruce Clawson "Service Above Self" Rotary Award goes to Chloe Louthan-Green. The first 3 awards consist of \$500 each, and the 4th award is \$750. John reminded us of The District Conference in May. So far, eight are signed up to attend. This Wednesday, 11/01, will be the first "Rotary Lite" Meeting at Brew and Brats at 6:30. A program is needed for the meeting of 11/27. Sharon suggested a program possibility might be an Operation Santa update. The program for 11/06 will be a Polio Eradication follow-up, featuring Robin Lostetter. Regarding the Community Harvest Dinner scheduled for 11/12, Patrice talked to Marianna Beigel, and they would appreciate getting (5) cooked turkeys this year. Many thanks to Alex, Donna, Karen, and Leah who have offered to cook a turkey. Pat will do one also. Pick-up and delivery will be arranged later. Alex reported that today was the last day to place your order for the Community Calendar. Donna did a "wrap-up" of the Grape Fest. She had a check to present to the club in the amount of \$14,750! Mike will give that check to the Treasurer. Along with the help of Bill C., Donna shared some interesting historical facts about the G.F., and

the two clubs, Naples Historical Society, and Naples Rotary. We bade farewell to Bruce, who is heading South for the Winter. Al was recently in a car accident. He is on the mend. Cards can be sent to his Post Office Box. Also, let's keep Warren and Roberta in our thoughts and prayers, as Warren recently lost his mom. John shared a picture of the gathering for World Polio Day, on 10/24.

Today's Program: Three more new members shared their bios with us today, and it's a pretty safe bet to say that these three stellar individuals will definitely make a difference in Rotary!!

Leah Friends was the first to speak, and upon thanking us for the warm welcome she was given, she told us how she became interested in joining Naples Rotary. Last Spring, through the urging of Jack and Steve, she was compelled to buy a Lucky Ducky Derby ticket with the assurance she might possibly be a winner! Well, wouldn't you know, her duck came in last! Nevertheless, she was given a \$25 Gift Certificate! Leah, being one who enjoys volunteering and doing community service, felt that as her children have grown, so have her family needs. She wanted to be "a part of a bigger family", thus her interest in Rotary was sparked! Having



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grown up on a dairy farm in Pennsylvania, Leah is no stranger to hard work! Through her education, Leah became involved in the area of micro-biology, and did diagnostic lab work. She and her husband had started a business in Victor, employing 32 people, where medical equipment was made and sold. Leah has two children, Lauren and Ethan, of whom she can be well proud. Lauren was mentored by Frank, and the Brew and Brats team, Sherry and John, who gave her much encouragement as well. Ethan was supported greatly by neighbor, Ed Joseph, and other NCS staff. He has become involved in the aviation industry. Thus, Rotary has played a part in the lives of Leah's children too!! Leah's most recent favorite topic is "Barn Quilts". She'd like to see a "Barn Quilt Trail" become a reality in Naples someday! Welcome, Leah, your talents will be treasured as a new member of our club!!



Our next presenter was Nancy Linehan, whom we welcome back to Naples Rotary after a hiatus of a few years. Nancy, who was born in Elmira, and who had even attended a 3-room schoolhouse, brings to us a wealth of experience! Nancy had originally wanted to be an English teacher, but her career began as a seed analyst in Geneva. Nancy met Bob in 1957, and in 1959 they were married. They had 2 lovely children, Kathy and Tim, who grew up and attended Naples Schools. While Bob began his teaching career in Naples, Nancy worked at Bob's and Ruth's and Moore-Cottrell. While thanking her mom for prompting her to take secretarial training, she accepted a position as a bank teller in 1961. Banking was to be Nancy's "walk of life", as she worked her way up to her role as bank manager. Bud Huber had invited her to join Rotary, and she became the first woman to belong to Naples Rotary, ascending to President in 1991!! Nancy had been a business advisor for the Junior Achievers at NCS, being involved with the shadowing the students did to learn more about area businesses. She has helped keep the books for the Naples Grape Festival. She has been President of the Ontario County Bankers' Association, and the American Institute of Banking. Bob and Nancy "took in" kids who were less fortunate, and Nancy has done knitting for needy kids, and made prayer shawls for others at St. Januarius. Since her retirement from Bath National, in 2001, Nancy had been wintering in Florida. This is her first Winter "back home", and we welcome Nancy "back" with wide open arms!! Glad to have you with us again, Nancy!!

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Our third “new” member to share his bio with us was our “native son”, Tom Hawks. Born the youngest of seven children to the beautiful Hawks Family, Tom wanted to follow the legacy of his dad Richard by being a Rotarian as well. Tom had always been interested in electronics, and growing up, he enjoyed “bugging” the rooms of his older siblings! Although shy, Tom began to develop his unique inter-personal skills in high school by becoming involved with Student Council. Tom was “on a roll”, as he shared his objectives with his classmates on a roll of toilet paper as he spoke! Tom attended the University of Dayton, and it was there, where he met his former wife, Barb. Together, they have two wonderful children, Tommy and Chelsea. Tom’s dad, having had a long illness, had been the impetus to prompt Tom to move closer to his family home, thus, he bought a house next to his parents. It was that lakeside family home that would give his children a close relationship with their grandparents. It was during those many Winter Guard fund-raising events at the Grape Fest that Tom became aware of the Naples Rotary investment as well. In 1987, Bruce Clawson sponsored Tom as an incoming member of Rotary. Tom had started a business known as “Desktop Publishing” that produced the Grapevine each week for Rotary. Tom has been involved with marketing and consulting for the past 6 years with Hunt Hollow. In 2009, Tom had a bout with pancreatic cancer. Now it’s back. Tom is now retired, and serving on the Naples School Board, and Hospeace House. Tom is an example of strength and determination, and we welcome him back with gratitude and admiration!



Today’s Fines: Nancy did not have her badge. Leah had been talking. Tom had been on a trip. Donna referred to Coop’s notes. Brenda’s cell phone rang. Mike was late. Larry, Lee, Jamie, Bruce, Jack, and Penny had missed meetings.

Happy Bills: We were unanimous in providing Happy Bills of gratitude for our three program presenters. They will bring much vibrancy to the club! Leah, Nancy, and Tom were all glad to have their bios done! Bill C. had his daughter with him. Bruce is heading South. Donna says the “B and B” season has ended, and the “Chocolate Time” has begun! Chip thanked us for having him. John said the Voce Canto was going to be recording the Star-Spangled Banner. Penny was pleased about her marathon, Trunk Or Treat, and her son home for Thanksgiving. Mike was pleased about our Rotary accomplishment at this year’s Grape Fest.

Fifty-Fifty: Matt’s ticket, #2471, was drawn, but Matt didn’t get the Ace of Hearts today.

Rotary Moment: During her marathon in Washington, D. C., Penny noticed many folks in bright blue shirts along the way, passing out water to the participants. Turns out, they were Rotarians, some of whom were from Rochester Rotary! She was given two bottles of water when she said she was from Naples Rotary!!

I want to apologize for the super lengthy missive this week, but I felt it was important to “capture” the personality of each of our new members. It is this wonderful diversification of members that makes our Naples Club so unique!! Have a wonderful week, everyone, and we’ll see each other in November!