

Grapevine

Rotary Club of Naples, NY

Lunch Meeting, September 18, 2017

We were literally “bursting at the seams” today, as 35 Rotarians, plus 3 guests, crammed into the front dining area, calling for the addition of 2 more tables! Our club is growing by leaps and bounds, and that surely is a good sign! President John led us in saying The Pledge, and Jack carried us through The Star-Spangled Banner. Larry’s heartfelt prayer gave thanks to The Good Lord for His blessings, and asked for His guidance, as we strive to serve others. We welcomed our special guests today...Joanne, Penny, and Mike.

President John reported that there were no “Mailbag Items” to share with the group at today’s meeting. We will be donating \$1180 to the Rotary Club of Rockford, Texas, to help the Hurricane Harvey victims. The Membership Development Seminar will be held at the Burgundy Basin Inn on 9/30. The Literacy Seminar will be 9/23. Jack reported on the District Golf Tournament held on 9/8. Although we didn’t win, a good, soggy time was had by all! There was a nice turnout at the Steak Roast held last week. Thanks to Bill G. for the great grilling, plus we have an amazing group of excellent cooks in the club too!! John also reported that, thanks to the 20 people who came to help, the first floor of Hospice House was cleared out very quickly.

Today, our newest members were officially inducted into Naples Rotary. We had Nancy Linehan, who returns to us after a few years’ hiatus. Along with Nancy, we had Sherry Brahm-French, sponsored by her husband, John, Deb Lindbloom, sponsored by Tom Hawks, and Leah Friends, sponsored by Jack Fredericks. Thanks to Mike for preparing special packets for each of our new members. A warm round of applause followed their induction. These newest Rotarians will certainly enhance our club! Welcome!!



President John inducting Sherry, Deb (sponsor Tom at right), Leah (sponsor Jack at right) and Nancy.

Our own Donna did our program today, and yes, you guessed it, it was about The Grape Fest! Our festival has been getting some media coverage, which should be very beneficial. Donna added a few more tidbits. Some squares are 10 feet, and some are 15. Monetarily, we are in “good shape”, as Donna put it. On Thursday morning, 90 bales of straw are being delivered. The Music Tent will be set up on Thursday. Credit cards may be used again this year at the Wine Tent. There will be 11 wineries, and 1 brewery on site. “Thank you from the bottom of my heart!” said Donna! Mike also added that the music is all lined up. The sign-up sheet was circulated among the members to help fill in some gaps. Thanks to Donna, Joanne, Mike, Skip, and Warren for all you have done. Alex also mentioned a Used Book Sale that is taking place at Trinity this weekend, should any of us have some donations.

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FINES: John F. and Bessie didn't have their badges. Bill C. had missed some meetings. Deb had been away. Steve missed the Board Meeting. Jack, I didn't catch the reason for your fine, sorry! Blanche has a new car!

HAPPY BILLS: The majority of us were happy to have our new members on board, and we were all glad to have Bill C. back! Warren- everything is okay in Florida. Leah-for her children. Bill-happy to be back, and new great-grandchild. Mike-now we are over 50 members! John B.- wine awards. Larry-Rotary sign. Deb-thank you to Tom. Diane-daughter in marathon. Bruce-family is okay down south. Steve-great weather!

FIFTY-FIFTY: Frank's ticket, #124, was picked. Frank drew the Ten of Clubs.

WIN-WIN: Courtesy of Alex. She talked about the life expectancy in Russia, Great Britain, and Japan. Frank also added that an average of 40,000 cars pass a stopped school bus in NYS every day! Unbelievable!

ROTARY MOMENT: Mike, (being a Rotarian), went to see Bob Seager in Rochester recently. Apparently, even though he's in his 70's, he still has a great voice!

Hope that everyone is enjoying this wonderful weather this week! We'll see each other at the Grape Fest this weekend! It'll be a lot of work, but it'll be a lot of fun too!