



Last week, we were hoping for the rain to go away, now, we want that humidity NOT to stay!! As we gathered for our last meeting of August, 33 Rotarians, plus five guests, literally filled the front dining area to capacity!! There was much on our agenda today!



President Jack led us in saying The Pledge. In leading us in song, John F. chose The Star-Spangled Banner. Alex chose an old Rotary Blessing, gleaned from The Rotarian Magazine, for The Invocation.

We welcomed guests, Alvaro, our incoming exchange student from Spain, Random, his current host "brother", and Pres. Jack's Sharon. Our additional guests were Katy Matthews, Liz Faver, and Amy Olmstead, who represent MOPS, and who would be our program presenters.

Pres. Jack, and P.P. John led us in a hearty round of "Congratulations" for our August Anniversaries and Birthdays. Our August Anniversaries include Adam and Kayc, Al and Fran, Bessie and Jamie, Bo and Pat, Bruce and Karen, Debbie and Frank, and Shanna and Dave. August Birthdays are Gerry, Tom, Jane, Karen, Bessie and Debbie. Warmest Wishes to all!!



Next on the agenda was a rundown of upcoming calendar dates, which covered September and October. Here they are as follows: 9/3-No Meeting-Labor Day, 9/10-Steak Roast-VFW, 9/17-Thai Massage-Jessica Witherow, 9/24-Grape Festival-Prep, 9/29-30-Grape Festival Weekend, 10/01-Philosophy of Senior Living Activities-Noon, 10/08-From Charity To Social Impact-Evening, 10/15-Interior Design-Noon. 10/22-Ganondagon-Noon, 10/29-Club Assembly-Noon. And there you have the Fall Planner in place!

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We were pleased to meet three representatives from MOPS, Katy, Liz, and Amy, and to become acquainted with their program. The acronym, "MOPS" stands for Mothers Of Pre-Schoolers, and this group provides mutual support, and "a circle of strength" during the child-rearing years. Katy, who is the Kids' Leader, told us that MOPS is an international organization, which encourages children to reach their potential, and to develop deep friendships.

The MOPS Program provides a specific curriculum, and being Scripture-based, each meeting is "led by the Holy Spirit", says Katy. Their theme is "Find Your Fire". Thriving on the mutual support of these young mothers, each lesson includes a devotional, a topic, a craft, and a wholesome snack to enrich these young children in nurturing ways. The Naples MOPS Program meets at Trinity Federated Church, and currently, there are about 10 children enrolled.

Amy spoke next, and she gave us an overview of their annual expenses. The Naples MOPS Program works solely on donations. Expense-wise, they are looking at \$1200-1500 annually to support their goals and services. With the availability of funds, they hope to reach out to the community in seeking more people with definite needs. They are looking for volunteers as well! Such a gift they are providing to our tiny tots! Thanks for all you do for them, and thank you for your presentation today!



With one of our Avenues of Service being International, it was only fitting that Pres. Jack called upon Alvaro, our Exchange Student from Spain to say a few words! Alvaro, who comes to our bucolic community from the metropolis of Madrid, said he was happy to be here, and that he found Naples to "bigger than he expected!" He has already "hit" some of the "top spots" such as Linnie Lou's and

Neapolitan Pizzeria!! P. Jack presented Alvaro with a Naples Rotary Club Flag, and we welcomed him warmly with a round of applause.



Speaking of Exchange Students, Our Phoebe is acclimating well to life in Austria. Evidently, she had achieved the highest level in her Language Camp!

John F. told us that things are progressing well with our Rotary Calendar! Frank is in charge of business advertising, and we are well on our way! We'll hit our deadline!

Donna noted that on 9/7, there will be a Grape Festival Meeting at Monier Manor at 10:00.

Our Fines today were as follows: Missed Meetings-Matt, Penny, Joan, Robin, and Susan. Unavailable Badge-Frank and Bruce. Late-Carrie. New Car-Donna. Ibuprofen PM, making Mike a bit "drowsy" after dental surgery!

Happy Bills filled the basket today in honor of Alvaro, and in thanks for the program! Also, Warren's eyes are getting better-Roberta. School has started-Matt. Daughter in the peace Corps-Robin. Well-attended meeting-Jack. Mary Kathryn graduating with honors-



Nancy. Great weather-John B. Hospeace House reopening-John F. Camp O.-Bruce and Frank. In addition, many were pleased with the Walk of Life outcome this year. Twelve members were at the WOL Wrap-Up at B and B last Sunday!

The Kitty was augmented to \$171 this week! Laurie's ticket, #535, was drawn, and she selected the Queen of Spades from the pack.

Pres. Jack had our Win-Win for today. Hawaii won the Little League with a score of 3:0!

We somehow had more than one Rotary Moment at the conclusion of today's meeting! Frank, Tom, Jack, and Bo had hoped to do a little service project at Camp O. last week, but they were "rained out". It became a "mini-meeting" at Perkins, (I think), as the drenched fellows restored themselves! Bruce shared a heart-warming story of a little camper named Mia, whom he enjoyed getting to know. She was so excited that she was getting some new adjustable legs, which would make her 1-1 ½ feet taller. These children sure are an inspiration! Also, our friend, Michael Ball was working there (at Camp O.) as a counselor!

Thanks to Penny and David and family for being the first host family to welcome our Exchange Student, Alvaro! We won't meet next week, as it's Labor Day, but we'll gather for great food, fun, and fellowship at our Annual Steak Roast on the 10<sup>th</sup>! See you then!



