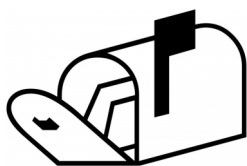




Today was our first meeting of December, and as the Season of Advent is upon us, it seemed that our group was filled with good cheer, as we gathered 'round to hear Woody's Stories of Yesteryear. We were 31 in number...27 Naples Rotary Members, plus four guests. President



Jack opened the meeting, as we stood with him to recite The Pledge. Our Voce Canto star, John French, chose God Bless America to lead us in song. Jack asked Alex to give The Blessing, and she asked The Lord to help us make this world a better place. We were delighted to have DG Mike Slovak, from Bath Rotary, join us for lunch, along with Tina Newton, Sharon, wife of Jack, and Elizabeth, wife of Woody.



In terms of mail, Jack had a graphic display of Hamburg, Germany, which will be the site of the Convention, June 1-5, 2019. He also told us that he had a check in the amount of \$5000, to the Rotary Foundation, from the will of former Rotarian, Odell Scott.

Jack had the Club Calendar on screen for us to review. Here is the slate of events through the end of January. 12/10- Naples Rotary Christmas Party at Hollerhorn, 12/17- Naples Valley Visitors Association, 12/24- Christmas Eve, no meeting, 12/31- New Year's Eve, no meeting, 1/7- Naples Ambulance, 1/14- Our Own Tom Hawks, 1/21- Club Assembly, and 1/28- Senior Resources. Many thanks to Tom for arranging such an interesting array of programs throughout the year!

Then it was time to sit back, and enjoy "Stories of Yesteryear", presented to us by our own Woody Hawks. Pres. Jack prefaced the program by saying how Woody himself embodies the Five Avenues of Rotary Service, and we were to learn how true this is! Speaking of Tom, it was not surprising that he should be the one to introduce Woody, as he is his cousin! He is someone whom Tom has looked up to all his life, and Tom described him as a man of "wit, knowledge, and sincere friendship". Indeed, we would all agree!

Woody strode up to the "mic", and with his soft, pleasant voice, he began to tell his story, and at that moment, he began to capture the attention and enthusiasm of each of us!



Woody's Story began with the birth of his grandfather, Dr. Chapman, who was born in 1888, in a small town in Pennsylvania. Dr. Chapman, who was involved with Aerial Reconnaissance, came to Rochester, N.Y., and met with George Eastman. "Come, and work with me", George Eastman had pleaded. Dr. Chapman that and and settled near the Eastman Kodak Company, of which he became the CEO in the fifties.

In 1938 , Woody was born, - just before Poland was invaded, leading up to WWII. Times were troublesome, yet Woody was able to get an education, and in the Fall of 1957, he entered Princeton, majoring in chemistry. He served 3 years in the Marine Corps, and in 1968, he received his Doctorate.

Woody worked at Kodak for 30 years, and over that period of time, many changes took place. The advent of digital photography in the 1980's certainly was a factor that led to the rapid decline of the company, and by the 1990's, as Woody told us, sales were floundering. Retirement packages, however, were offered to Kodak employees.

When asked what brought him to the Naples area, Woody replied that his paternal grandfather owned land on Cook's Point. Woody spent his Summers there, being babysat by our Jane, who taught him to "serve tea properly"! Woody concluded his "peek into the past" by telling us that he has a "love and reverence for the hills". Laurie asked Woody if he could end his talk with a quote, and, of course, Woody complied. He read a poem to us entitled "Invictus", which is the Latin root for "invincible"! The poem, so eloquently read by Woody, conveyed the message, "To thine own self be true," which Jack put on the screen as a quote from President George H W Bush.

Skip reminded everyone that the Operation Santa Delivery will take place on December 15th. Alex mentioned that Margaret Fowler needs help with Light Up Naples, which will be this Saturday, December 8th. A tent with sides is required. Mike S. said that Bath Rotary could help with this. Bo has a tarp that he can provide, and Penny will help as well.

Before the Happy Bills and Fines were brought forth, Pres. Jack announced that there were 19 Rotarians at the Ecumenical Christmas Concert this past Sunday! That lovely concert, with Jack as the M.C., was the reason for many Happy Bills, as was Woody's Story. We were very proud of John F. for his Christmas Chopsticks, as we were of Jack for his beautiful solo! Such talent amongst us!! Jodi's son, River, made All-County Chorus. John M. had visited with Al Mann. Bill C. had his name in the paper. Tom has been helped by medical marijuana. Penny has traveled with Alvaro. Joan remembered visiting the POW Camp in Naples with her brother when she was a kid. Diane had spent time with her family in Texas. Laurie appreciated Woody's poem. Brenda, along with many of us, remembered President Bush. A few of us paid some Fines for having missed some meetings.

The Ace of Hearts could have rendered \$40 today! Joan drew Ticket #095, which belonged to Larry. He drew the Ten of Spades from the pack.

John F. had the Win-Win, which was to ask what the peak number of employees was at Kodak worldwide.

The Rotary Moment included a quote from President George H.W. Bush, whom we remember. He also said, "To thine own self be true!"

Pres. Jack concluded the meeting with a video of John French singing his "Christmas Chopsticks"! On that "note", we'll see each other at the Christmas Party next week!!