

GRAPEVINE

(the original)

June 24, 2019 Lunch Meeting, reported by Patrice Lysell, secretary.



Today was President Jack's last official meeting of the year. The (Rotary) Year sure has flown by! It seems like it was just a short while ago that we were welcoming him aboard, and bidding farewell to John French. To say that the front dining room was "teeming with members and guests", today, is an understatement! Due to quick thinking on John's and Sherry's part, along with our wonderful Redwood hosts, there was plenty of seating for everyone! There were 30 members in attendance, along with nine guests! Sweet Becky managed to get us all taken care of!

Pres. Jack began the meeting, as we joined him in saying The Pledge. Just to put a "little twist"



on things, Jack had Verse 2 of The Star-Spangled Banner for us to try. Fortunately, John F. started us out on just the right note, as our eyes were glued to the somewhat unfamiliar text! Larry gave a beautiful Invocation, thanking The Lord for

bestowing His Blessings upon us, and for giving us the ability to serve others. Today's guests included Chris, wife of Wayne, Hannah Steff, and her parents, John and Bonnie, Sharon, Bruce, Betty, Mahina, daughter of Shanna, and Taryn, visiting member from the Geneva Club.

Jack had some Mailbag Items to share with the group. Don't forget that dues are due! For new members' information, this amounts to \$75 for ½ year, per member. There was an E-Mail from Camp O. There will be four campers from Naples who will be attending this Summer. There is an Amazon Wish List for Camp O. The website is at https://www.onseyawa.org/.Volunteers are needed for Camp Set-up on Saturday, August 17. Volunteers are needed for the Camp O. Carnival on August 25. The Annual Dinner is on October 25 in Geneva. More details will follow. Thank you, Frank, for the update.

June has been designated Rotary Fellowship Month, and July, for Naples, will be known as "Welcome Pres. Tom Hawks" Month. Here are a couple of dates to keep in mind.

- Next Monday evening, 7/1, will be the Gavel Dinner at Brew and Brats.
- Rotary Night at the Redwings will be 7/27.
- Looking to July, here are some Pre-Events leading up to the Walk of Life, (slated for 8/10).
 - Desserts and Songwriters under the tent at the Naples Hotel will be 7/11.
 - ♦ Silent Auction at the Tipping Glass will be 7/23.

According to trusty wife, Sharon, Jack reported that it had been a great Graduation Ceremony at NCS over the weekend. We welcomed 2019 NCS Grad, Hannah Steff, (along with her parents, John and Bonnie), to today's Meeting.



Hannah is the 2019 recipient of the Bruce Clawson Service Above Self Award. (Long time Rotarian and Fire Chief, Bruce was Judy Miller's Dad.) After Blanche read Hannah's essay to the group, it was quite easy to see why this extraordinary young lady is so deserving of this prestigious award. In her essay, Hannah told of the various ways she has served her community and others, throughout her school career. Hannah's own words truly summed up her spirit of giving! "A life not lived for others is a life not lived!" She plans to attend SUNY Geneseo this Fall, and she will pursue her studies in Early Childhood Education. Congratulations, Hannah! The Naples Rotary Wishes you all the best! Thank you to Judy M. and Mike J. for your input also!

Joe Rought was unable to be with us this noon, thus, the "Almost President-Elect", Matt Frahm, became today's Program. It's always a pleasure to hear from Matt, and today, he spoke about a "Tale of Two Cities".



The theme for 2019-2020 is "Rotary Connects", and Matt's presentation aligned with this idea. As an "ice-breaker", he had us divide into groups, and tell where each of us would like to go if given the chance, and the plane ticket to do so. Matt then showed us a short video called "Did You Know?" The video portrayed what life might look like in 2028!

In 2018, Matt took a trip with friend and colleague from Geneseo, Bill Cook. They visited Florence, Italy, and Nairobi, Kenya. The two cities, in many respects, could not be more opposite, yet Matt and Bill found positivity in both.

Yes, Florence possesses a rich cultural heritage, yet in Nairobi, hope could be seen in the poverty-stricken areas and schools they visited. The schools, though they had very little to work with, were places of hope, with caring teachers. Matt's friend, evidently, has built a foundation to help these schools. The faces of the children looked happy, nonetheless!

Matt ended his talk with a quote from Nicholas Kristof. "Talent is universal, but opportunity is not". We, as Rotarians, can strive, through our own efforts, to make opportunity happen for those less fortunate, as well! Thank you, once again Matt, for an excellent presentation! We hope to have Joe Rought join us at a later date.

The Fines and Happy Bills were centered on the following areas today.

- We are very proud of Hannah for all her accomplishments, and her "service above self".
- We were very appreciative of Matt, his program, and being willing to step in on short notice.
- We are looking forward to the addition of more new members also!
- There were a few missed meetings, and latecomers.
- Roberta is doing well after eye surgery.

The Ace of Hearts was up to \$181. Ticket, 0909 was that of Laurie. She drew the jack of Spades!

Pat had the Win-Win ready. Did you know that there are actually 1864 Islands in the Thousand Islands?

For the Rotary Moment, Guest Bruce told us that he had moved into Al Mann's house, and he had come across a list of favorite songs that the "Sax Man" had liked!

Thank you, Jack, from all of us in the Naples Rotary Club, for your excellent year of leadership! We'll gather next Monday evening at Brew and Brats to honor you, and to welcome Tom Hawks as our President for 2019-2020. Hope to see many of you then!