



The calendar says it's June, but today's temperature seemed more indicative of a crisp Fall day! The atmosphere in the dining area of The Redwood, however, was warm and welcoming, as 28 members and six guests gathered for the first meeting of June. The delicious menu choices offered also helped to take the chill away!



The meeting commenced with Jack leading us in The Pledge. John French chose The Star-Spangled Banner to lead us in song. Susan's beautiful Blessing asked Father God to bless us as we strive to serve others, and to endow us with thankful hearts in so doing.

We are always glad to welcome guests to our meetings, and today, a pleasant and familiar group joined us. We were glad to have Sharon, Betty, Liz, Clyde, Chris, and Chip participate in the meeting. It won't be long before Liz and Clyde won't have to be introduced as "guests", as they are in the pipeline for becoming new members!

Today's program was to have been about the "Budding Readers", but unfortunately, the guest speaker, Elizabeth Mosher, (founder of Budding Readers), was unable to come. I was able to talk with Jan Murphy, who, along with Sandy Kelly, is in charge of the program in Naples. Jan provided a wealth of information, which I'll share in today's missive.

As I mentioned earlier, BR was begun by Elizabeth Mosher in 2007. The program began in Naples in 2012. The goal of BR was, and is, to provide families with babies and young children access to books and opportunities for shared reading. Bundles of high quality books have been given to many families in the area who have babies and young siblings on board. BR has given books to Pre-K, Kindergarten, Day-care Centers, Operation Santa, Story Hours, and the birthday of Dr. Seuss.

"Budding Readers" has provided books for the Birthing Classes at Thompson, and for WIC. BR has also been involved with two additional programs: "Healthy Families" and "Family Promise". Regarding Healthy Families, home visits are made to at-risk families, and as for Family Promise, shelter is provided for homeless families, and book bundles are given to the families when they transition to a home.

The Naples Branch of Budding Readers partners with the Naples Library, which has added to its success in this area. Jan reported that to date, over 50,000 books have been donated by Budding Readers! That figure surely speaks well of the commitment BR has to the literacy development in our very young! Many, many thanks to Jan for sharing this information, and to Elizabeth for creating such a worthwhile program! So many young lives have been touched in wonderful ways!

I should also mention that BR helps our club by donating books to the preschool and Kindergarten classes in our annual Christmas book program for the entire Elementary School.

Speaking of the vibrancy of the Naples Club, here is an example of how we, as a group, are able to collectively "rise to the occasion" when the need presents itself. There were many members who had worthwhile items to share, so the meeting resembled a "Club Assembly!" Here are the various items in the order that they were presented:

- Bruce and Betty will be "manning the kitchen" this Summer at Camp O.
- The applications are in for Liz and Clyde Yee, who will become members soon.
- Sherry reported that the Rotary Community Calendar will be getting underway soon.
- Frank said that the Camp O. Golf Tourney will be this Saturday, June 8th. There'll be some "refreshments" along the way!

- Jamie thanked everyone for the Paul Harris nominations.
- Pres. Jack reported that there was an update from the U. of R. Mike Stapleton from Thompson Health has given an update on the progress of the new addition. The new ICU is scheduled to open in March 0f 2020.
- The R.I.T. Conference Center will be the location of the District Change-Over Dinner on June 28th. We will thank DG Mike Slovak for a job well done, and welcome incoming DG Mike Hannan, who hails from Newark Rotary Club.
- Naples Rotary Gavel Dinner will be July 1st at Brew and Brats. This will be our chance to thank President Jack for a stellar year, and to welcome President-Elect, Tom Hawks. Many thanks to Skip and Judy for your efforts in arranging this gathering, and for the nice print-out! (Excerpt below.)

6:30 p.m. Dinner Early Spring Greens - Crumbly Bleu Cheese -
 Candied Walnuts - Strawberries - Maple Balsamic Vinaigrette
 Roasted Fingerling Potatoes - Shrimp/Scallop Scampi with Linguine
 - Prime Rib Carved on Line Horseradish
 Crispy Steamed Asparagus
 Crispy Baguette
 Carafe of Lemon Water

Dessert Assortments Kenka Lake Coffees

\$30. "Around the Corner Catering" by Jane Russell

RSVP to Skip Miller 721-2647 Deadline: Monday, June 24th

- Jack did a review of the Club Calendar for the remainder of the year. He also said that July will be called "Welcome Tom Hawks II" month!
- In conjunction with Budding Readers, Jack said that he and Sharon went with Bill and Sandy Kelly last week, to collect more books from the Storage Barn in Farmington. Of course, these books are earmarked for the little ones in our area!
- Jodi took the podium next. She has been very involved with the Naples Marching Band. The Band and Color Guard have done exceptionally well this Spring in each of their parades.
- Jodi thanked the Naples Rotary for donating funds to purchase 4 "pop-up" tents for the Band.

- Jodi went on to describe another need for the band: More coolers to store water and such for the kids, as they march along in hot weather. Penny very generously offered to donate an expandable wagon to carry supplies.
- Jodi also gave a quick overview of the events leading up to the Walk of Life this Summer. All of the activities will be held around Memorial Town Hall. Among the new activities will be a "Dog Show."
- Jodi also alerted us that Jessica Witherow is in hospital at this time. Her family would appreciate some help. Gas cards, and grocery cards were suggested, as well as our prayers for Jessie to get well soon.
- Donna said that the Grape Festival Committee met last week, and that everything is going smoothly. This year, there will be an expanded "Adult Beverage Area", and it will be dedicated to John H. Brahm III.
- John French noted that the "Plein Air" Festival is this coming weekend.
- Leah said that the Bristol Fun Days are coming, and she has raffle tickets to sell for a Barn Quilt made by Deb Lindbloom!

The Fines were comprised of missed meetings, (Frank, Jamie, Bessie, Leah, Mike T., Tina, and Bill S.), and perhaps a cell phone ringing, (Bo)! Lots and lots of Happy Bills came forth in appreciation of Budding Readers, in praise of the Marching Band, and in thanks for such a vibrant club!

The Ace of Hearts was up to \$117! Betty drew Ticket # 7735, which was Frank's. Per Bruce's kidding, Frank "woke up", and drew the Jack of Diamonds!

Jane had the Win-Win. The first cows came to America in 1493, on Columbus' second visit, and there are over 1 million of them now!

The Rotary Moment was twofold. There were so many members at the Fundraiser for Tim Moore last week, and there were many Rotarians at the Memorial Day Parade as well!

Have a great week, everyone! See you next week, June 10th, for the Evening Meeting!