



**FRIDAY, March 8, 2023**

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The meeting was called to order by President Rachel at 12:15.

The Pledge was led by Linda D, the 4 Way Pact by Gayle F and the Invocation by Jack L.

### **Our visitors**

Jim Elliot, Founder and President and Tinamarie Hernandez, Executive Director of Dive Heart (our speakers), Shea C. of PNC Bank and Emily, who is Rachel's intern and is living with Holly.

### **Announcements**

👉 Bonnie M shared a note sent to the club by Sandy R. thanking Rotarians for their support and reflecting on how much Rotary had meant to Dom. We all sure do miss Dom.

👉 Gayle gave us the good news about the success of the Classic and the funds raised

• Broken Record Game	\$200
• 50/50 Raffle	\$950
• Treasure Chest	\$1,100
• Lottery Tree	\$360
• Silent Auction	\$11,895
• Live Auction	\$21,200
• Paddle Drop	\$1,600
• Paddle Raise (Eradicate Poverty)	\$37,300

**GRAND TOTAL (net of expenses)      over \$180,000**

👉 Jim M told of his and Bonnie's Sunday spent scratching the many boxes on all the tickets they won with the Lottery Tree. Their winning bid was \$360. They had 9 winners among the many tickets they scratched. However, those 9 winners did add up to the investment they made. Fortunately, their investment is really in the work our club does for our communities – and of course the anticipation that maybe, just maybe, one of those ticket was hiding a million-dollar prize.

👉 Tom shared a brief video clip previewing the 2025 Classic, "Ya Mon," noting that whenever Rotarians are asked to help, the answer is always, "Ya Mon." It is not too early to mark your calendar to save March 8, 2025 for another great Classic.

👉 Linda and Gene shared information about upcoming social events. See Rachel's weekly email for details.

### **Happy \$\$\$s**

\$ Our guest, Shea, was happy to be with us on International Women's Day

\$ Linda D was glad the classic is over, especially the games. She also shared that she and Gene will be doing a virtual program on the current housing market through the Schaumburg Township Library.

\$ Barry C was happy about the great success of the Classic and especially appreciative of all the tickets Nancy R sold.

\$ Diane M was happy to be in the room with so many amazing women (on Int'l Women's Day) and because she will get a break this weekend.

\$ Mike E shared a story from PETS this past weekend. PRID and International PolioPlus Chair Mike McGovern, who was at the PETS in a leadership role, shared that he had to decide between that commitment and going to the funeral of his long-time secretary. Upon hearing this, the Rotarian gathered "passed the hat" and collected funds to be donated to PolioPlus in her name.

\$ Brian B is very happy to be going to Florida for two weeks.

\$ Bob F. was happy about his grandson's birthday and especially his upcoming trip to Ireland to visit his grandson who is studying there this year.

\$ Gayle V was happy about the successful classic and especially appreciative of Loren T's contribution to that success.

\$ Gene W was happy for several reasons: his daughter Bailey has received a callback for *The Outsiders* production, he has another para-normal event coming up (I missed the details), and for Diane M and the wonderful special karaoke party she arranged for some of the "Joseph" cast following the close of the run of that play.

\$ Shea was happy again because he will be attending an "Adult Prom" event in the southern burbs for Spina Bifida fund raising.

\$ Gillette is happy to be checking out some geriatric musicians – Steely Dan and the Eagles – this weekend.

\$ Rachel was very happy that her intern Emily joined her for the meeting and that the Classic was so "phenomenal."

\$ Mary happy to welcome her 3<sup>rd</sup> grandchild, an 8-pound baby girl.

### **Queen of Hearts Raffle:**

The spinning wheel stopped on Darrell Moon, who was not here to pick a number. Number 39, picked for him, revealed a heart, but not a queen. The 4 of hearts it was.

### **Fun and Frolic**

Finemaster Jeff M took the podium and proceeded to clean out our wallets of whatever might have been left after the Classic...

- In honor of International Women's Day, all women were fined \$3
- A mini bet on a Rotarian was held – did George P know what SCUBA stands for. It wasn't a big money raiser because so many of us bet against George. In fact, it was Wes C who enlightened us that SCUBA = self-contained underwater breathing apparatus. Way to go Wes!

- The next Rotarian we got to bet on was Ernie T. Ernie did really well and those of us who bet against his answers were sorry. We learned that Schaumburg
  - Had 130 residents when it was incorporated on March 7, 1956
  - Currently has a population of 78,000
  - Is 19 ½ square miles in size (although there is nothing square about the boundary lines of Schaumburg today)
  - Was known as Sarah's Grove (because 3 of the farmers' wives were named Sarah) prior to being named Schaumburg in 1850 by Friedrich Heinrich Nerge.

### **Our program**

Jim and Tina shared information about Dive Heart, an organization with a mission to build confidence, independence and self-esteem in the lives of children, adults and veterans with disabilities through scuba diving, scuba therapy and related activities. They shared two videos highlighting the success of their program.

We saw Tracy Carroll, a Navy veteran and experienced diver, who was diagnosed with ALS. She had always been a person who “lived life boldly” and felt as if the disease was robbing her of her identity as well as her mobility. She really wanted to dive again. She tried Googling “Scuba Diving with a Wheelchair” and found her way to Dive Heart. Through this program she is able to dive again. She feels empowered and in control of something, which feels very good. Along with the adaptive diving techniques she had to learn, she had to do some mental adaptation as well, including learning that it is okay to need help. The inclusivity of the Dive Heart program made that possible for her.

A second video told the story of a young woman Kristia, who has autism and has discovered a new world underwater. She described herself always being “that weird kid” before, but with Dive Heart she has finally found her place...with people she feels comfortable around...people who have a common interest...and a program that is inclusive of everyone. Her parents were also on the video and talked about the joy of seeing her grow and develop greater independence and sense of responsibility.

We also learned of the group's goal of creating a warm-water deep pool for training purposes. Most of their work is done in pools and they are always looking for new locations so they can expand their reach into more communities. They will be at two upcoming events to which we are all invited: a Rotary Means Business event in Naperville and a fund-raiser on March 27. Look for more information on these in Rachel's weekly email.

Bonnie led us in the 4 Way Test to close the meeting.