



**FRIDAY, September 8, 2023**

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

The Pledge was led by Marie P.

The 4 Way Pact was led by Gayle V.

The Invocation provided by Jack L.

### **Our visitors**

- ★ Mary Sevandal Cohen who is running for judge in the 13<sup>th</sup> Subcircuit Court and her husband Todd
- ★ Beth and Susan from CITY In Support
- ★ Paulina – soon to be a member
- ★ Pete Justen, who needs no introduction!

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

- \$ Roger was happy that tomorrow he is going to visit his mom in Lake of the Ozarks
- \$ Brian B. was very happy because we had an awesome day for an awesome September Fest with an awesome parade (in which Brian marched). Pretty awesome all around.
- \$ Jack L was happy because the Detroit Lions beat the Kansas City Chiefs in the opening game of the NFL 2023 season last night.
- \$ Holly F was happy because there is now a sponsor for the Interact Club at HEHS.
- \$ Linda D was happy because her daughter has expressed interest in attending Harper College.
- \$ Jim Mc was happy because the State of IL has confirmed that he will be receiving some “unclaimed property” (aka as \$\$\$).
- \$ Allen echoed Jack’s happiness about the Detroit Lions (who are in sole possession of 1<sup>st</sup> place in the division - at least until after Sunday), and because the Michigan State Spartans won too.
- \$ Wes and Roger were happy about their experience driving BMWs at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway (home of the Indy 500), speed being the operative word – 150mph on the straightaway -- Wes driving, Roger praying and taking a photo of the speedometer to prove their speed.
- \$ Marie was sad because she was supposed to be in Maui and very happy because of the 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary of being married to her best friend.
- \$ Diane M was happy, but I missed the reason (sorry Diane)
- \$ Ed H took the opportunity to inform club members that anyone with a Facebook account should change their password immediately because Facebook has had some data breaches recently.

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

Two spins of the wheel were needed because we did not meet last week. Nancy and Gayle were the lucky names to come up, but that is where the luck stopped – better luck next time ladies.

## **Announcements**

- ☞ Ted had some number of things to share (the number kept growing) – the three main ones were that gentle reminders have been sent to anyone with past due amounts outstanding, fund-raising study committee will meet next week after the club meeting, our PO Box number is changing to PO BOX 68774, Schaumburg, IL 60168.
- ☞ Beth told us a bit about CITY of Support, which started as a Facebook resource for parents of children and youth in therapy, most especially for those whose young people do not fit into diagnosis groups for which support groups already exist, such as Autism, Down Syndrome, etc.
- ☞ Wendy reminded us about the Butterfly Garden cleanup at CAC at 9 am tomorrow and Social Saturdays on September 23 & October 21 9:30 am – 2 pm. Stop in any time during that period for as long as you can. Connections to Care, which received a grant from us this year, needs drivers for senior transportation to medical and dental appointments. Contact Wendy if you are willing and able to help with this. There will be a check presentation at Keller Jr. High on September 29 at 8 am.
- ☞ Linda reminded us about tonight's fellowship event at Platzkonzert and gave us a preview of the upcoming fellowship events: September 30 at Bridges of Poplar Creek Top Tracer outing October 8 for a Ghost Walk in Naperville.
- ☞ Gayle invited all interested in helping to make the 2024 Classic a Rocking good time to participate in the next Classic Committee meeting on September 22 at Chandlers a 1:30 pm.
- ☞ Bruce reminded us of the great asset the Prairie Center is for the Arts is for our communities and informed us of their upcoming fund-raiser on Saturday, September 16.
- ☞ The "Real" Holly was with us to encourage us to sell, sell, sell Vacation Drawing Tickets. She also told us that Friday was the best day for the most members to participate in Meals On Wheels deliveries.
- ☞ Tom shared that the next "Rotary Means Business" meeting will be at Poplar Creek Bowl on September 13, 6-8 pm. Y'all come!
- ☞ Brian announced that the Bloomindale-Roselle Rotary Club is having a casino night September 15, 5:30 – 10:00 pm at Medinah Banquet, 550 Shriners Dr, Addison, IL.

## **Fun and Frolic**

Allen had way too much fun emptying our wallets today. Fines were levied for

- Not greeting today's secret greeter, Jeff S.
- Roger Smith for not saying the pledge of allegiance out loud
- No guest at your table
- Sharing cucumbers
- Wearing a suit
- No women at your table
- Going fishing soon
- Ted for the growing list of his announcements
- No badge, no pin, arriving late, leaving early
- Not turning in any Vacation Drawing tickets TODAY.
- Not being one of the many people giving announcements today
- Not wearing Rotary attire
- Just coming back into the room at the end of Fun and Frolic

## **Our program**

Women in Schaumburg-Hoffman Estates Rotary, presented by Jean S (30+ years), Rosemary J, ( 23+ years) Gayle V (18+ years), and Bonnie Mc (9+ years). In the interest of time Nancy R graciously deferred to the other 4 presenters.

They were each asked to speak about four questions:

Why did you join Rotary?

What were you involved in?

What was one of your favorite memories over all the years in Rotary?

What would be your best advice for new Rotarians?

**Jean** told us that she joined the club because her boss said she should. At first, she saw it as a work obligation and didn't really like it very much. Then she became more involved with club activities, including various committees, the club's foundation board, working on the classic and doing new member orientations. Early on, she was asked to be the Finemaster. It was a bit challenging but also a good was to get to know more people and gave her a certain sense of power...

Her favorite memory is from March of 2020 when she and Rosemary were co-chairs of the classic. Two days before the event was to take place, the nation shut down because of COVID. In those two days, working with the amazing tech team of Tom and Wes and several other club members, they created a whole new event – the virtual classic. The event showed what Rotarians can do when they come together. It was a very busy 48 hours and a great challenge. The whole program, including the silent auction, shifted to a live-stream event, with just a few people in the banquet hall. It became clear that the 330 meals that the Marriott was preparing were not going to be needed. Eileen helped find groups who could use these meals and club members loaded them into vehicles and delivered them to three locations. It is noteworthy that the club made \$155,000, net, on that classic.

Her advice to new members – Get involved.

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**Rosemary** shared that, in the 1990s she was a part of a Chamber of Commerce networking group with several members of this club, including Allen and Jim Mc. Allen persistently asked her when she was going to join Rotary. Back then she thought Rotary was an old boys' club and she had little interest until she learned of a reading program for at-risk children where Rotarians went into the school to work with the children during their lunchtime. That project is what piqued her interest in the club. The learning from that is that the best way to attract new people to the club is to listen to learn their passion and share how being a Rotarian allows them to serve in ways that really excite them.

She felt welcomed when she first came to the club and jumped in with both feet. Through the years she has taken on many tasks. She has worked on the Classic for 23 years, been PR chair Membership chair, served on the Foundation Board and been a part of planning social events for the club for nine years. She sees herself as a "behind the scenes" kind of person. However, in 2019, Pat asked her and Jean to chair Classic and she accepted that leadership role. She also talked about the amazing story of that 2020 Classic.

A favorite memory is being at the 2002 Rotary International Convention in Barcelona. She declared that international conventions are "mind boggling", with thousands of like-minded people from all over the world coming together. She really appreciated the chance to get to know Rotarians from different places, to hear inspirational speeches, and to come away with a new understanding of Rotary. Another special memory is from June 29, 2001. The club was meeting at Chandlers for the Installation of Jean as the first woman club president. She and Pete were not at that event because they were in another room around the corner where their families were gathered on her and Pete's wedding weekend. Toward the end of the evening some club members came to get her and took her (and some of her family) to the Rotary meeting where she was named the Rotarian of the Year. (That was quite a weekend Rosemary!)

Her advice to new members also is to GET INVOLVED.

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**Gayle** shared that, as she was listening to Jean and Rosemary's stories, she kept thinking, "wait, I was going to say that." She has always had a passion for "giving back." She was very involved in school activities when her kids were in school. Once her children were out of high school and she was back to work, she joined the Chamber of Commerce with Jim and Bonnie, long-time friend Rosemary and past member Jodie Benjamin. Jim kept saying "when are you going to come to Rotary." That lasted for years before she joined the club and discovered another way to give back. The reason Rotary so successful, she said, is that we all pull together toward shared goals.

She has been involved in club activities in many ways, including working on Classic committees. Working on fellowship with best friends, including some great "planning" meetings, has also be a great way to be involved.

Her best Rotary memory is from this date in 2007 when she went to Guatemala. She was a little reluctant when she was first asked, but she took leap of faith to go for a week of service. Her time in Guatemala was the most worthwhile week of her life. They were helping to rebuild a school, saw the dental boat when it came to visit the town, and even had time for a little sightseeing. An unexpected adventure was when a hurricane came through while they were there. The local Rotarians found them a safe place to weather the storm. However, that place was very primitive.

Her advice to new members is also to get involved and especially to join in fellowship activities which provide an opportunity to get to know other members in a way that weekly club meetings, with all the club business and programs, do not allow.

**Bonnie** opened by saying, "Ditto, ditto, ditto – there's not much to add." She really felt like she joined Rotary 30 years ago with Jim because it seemed she was always involved. In fact, in 2010 she received a perfect attendance award, even though she wasn't a Rotarian.

At the first classic she attended she was watching the silent auction set up and pitched in to help. For many years setting up for silent auction was an annual commitment. In 2014, Jim sponsored her to be a full-fledged member. She was part of the team planning and running the club's fellowship activities for nine years. She also served as the Kenneth Young Center community service liaison, as well as being on the Vocational Scholarship committee. It is very rewarding being a part of that committee, especially getting to meet the young people and knowing that we are making a positive difference in their futures. Don Minor was commended for his leadership. She has also helped with proof-reading Rotary club publications. She shared some of her special memories from classics of the past.

Her closing was to emphasize how much joy she has experienced in being involved in the club's projects. "It's not what you gather, but what you scatter that tells what kind of life you lived. Please give and enjoy life. It is as gift and it does have an expiration."

Vince followed up with a tribute to the role women have played and continue to play in Rotary and in our club.

Nancy Redmon led us in the 4 Way Test and the meeting was adjourned.