

THE ROTARY CLUB OF SCHAUMBURG/HOFFMANN ESTATES



September 24, 2021

The self-described REIGN OF TERROR perpetrated by our dear leader, Pres. Tom G., opened with the ringing of the Rotary bell on another memorable meeting of the Rotary Club of Schaumburg-Hoffman Estates! Our guests included Speaker Geri Davis, Anastasia Lozhkina (a broker with @properties), Michelle Norton (a recruiter working with Northwestern Mutual), Randy Gangaloo, a once and hopefully future member of our beloved Rotary Club and, for the last time as a guest, Tim Cohagen.

Fussing and Swearing (in)

Acting swiftly (and before Tim had a chance to escape from our clutches) PP & PDG Mike E, with help from Tim's sponsor Bill K, formally inducted Tim Cohagen as a member of our Rotary Club. After living in New York and Ohio for many years, Tim and his family moved to our area about 8 years ago. Tim is in online advertising (which for all of you Rotary committee chairs means that we finally have someone in the Club (i.e., Tim) who might actually be able to help us use the internet to our best advantage. Tim is also behind a NFP which provides help to those who are recovering from drug addiction as well as supporting Diabetes research. Tim's mom is a Rotarian, so it runs in the family! We are so glad that Tim, by all accounts a really nice guy, has chosen to become part of the vital work which we do as Rotarians in our home community and around the world. Welcome Tim!

Good News

Good news included (a) a Zoom gathering last Thursday (9/23) of Rotarians locally and abroad (in Taiwan & cet.) to discuss international Rotary projects and project funding; (b) the International Day of Peace celebrated on 9/21/21; and (c) the challenge accepted by our Club Board to a membership competition with the Arlington Hts. Rotary Club, which is now in effect until June 2022.

😊😊😊😊😊 **Happiness** 😊😊😊😊😊

Rampant Happiness amongst the membership included:

Pres. Tom's exceedingly high degree of 😊 with a mp3 of a live broadcast of the play-by-play of a HS football game in which the announcer described Tom's son Eddie (a player) as "A

Mammoth of a Man” – a clip which Tom repeatedly replayed during the balance of our meeting (but we forgave him);

Don M was happy (but a little concerned) that Eileen H was up at the Mayo Clinic, and reminded us all to send prayers (which we will do);

Bill L was happy to see his eldest granddaughter married in Oklahoma City last week (congratulations indeed!);

Pat G was happy that last night’s Zoom meeting (with the international Rotarians), was finally over!

Ted G was happy to report that he is not the man he used to be (weighing in at 168.4, with a 128.6 lb weight loss) – nice going Ted!

Bill K was happy to have traveled to Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons last week;

Tim C was happy to finally be a Rotarian just like Mum!

Bruce D was happy that he and Club Rotarian H Fath successfully tried out for a place in the “Too Hot To Handel” chorus, which will perform this coming January at the Auditorium Theatre;

Holly F was also happy for the same reason Bruce was happy, and she added that the January performance will be a Club Fellowship event! Cool!

Announcements

Nancy R announced that:

- a. The Club’s annual holiday party will be held on 12/3/2021 – save the date; and
- b. There will be an Octoberfest party for Club Rotarians on October 23, 2021.

Holly F announced that the Vacation Drawing was up to \$22,900, but we still can and should do more! So sell those “drawing” ties!

Queen of Hearts

Mary Jo S was lucky enough to have her number drawn for the Queen of Diamonds (not a) raffle. Unfortunately for Mary Jo, the Queen of Diamonds eluded her, but on a positive note, the 8 of clubs was exposed and will not get in the way of future contestants and the jackpot. Sorry Mary Jo. Better luck next time!

Finemastering

And with that out of the way, Club Rotarians were treated to an unusual treat – at least so far as finemastering is concerned – as our guest finemaster, Darrell M, presented a finemastering program which was ALL ABOUT DARRELL! Apart from the usual fines for the pinless, badgeless and those challenged to be mindful of the time, Darrell gave us a fun quiz about himself, which we repeat here with the answers on the last page (so home gamers and the sig others of Rotarians will have something fun to do) – and it goes like this:

The best man at Darrell’s latest wedding was:

His wife’s bro; Bob Keller; Terry Parke or Ed Haag

Darrell grew up in which of the following MN towns:

Redwing; Winona; Duluth or Rochester

On August 21, 1965, Darrell attended a concert which featured one of the following bands (choose one):

Beatles; Byrds, Hermits or the Rolling Stones

Darrell, in his life thus far and as an avid golfer, has now shot how many holes in one:

Zero; one; two; three or four.

Although it was short and amazingly informative about our dear Club member Darrell, it seemed that everyone in the Club ended up still paying the maximum (non-Allen G) fine of \$5, and it also seemed to take less time than usual, satisfying our Germanic notions of efficiency. So good job Darrell. Thanks even.

(Again, the answers are given at the end if you want to take the Darrell quiz)

Program

We were riveted to hear a presentation from Geri Davis who overcame a terrifying personal experience (with cancer) which she transformed into art, positivity and community service. Her experience, which Geri equated to riding a motorcycle full speed down a runaway truck lane, began with a tickle in Geri’s throat around Labor Day 2020, which within 10 or so days led to a complete blockage of her throat and her ability to ingest food and drink. In the treatment days that followed, Geri followed an example set by her father earlier in her life, to approach her severe health crisis in the most positive way possible. As she described it, the things she did were little things – injecting positivity and humor into events and treatments and into her attitude and interaction with her caregivers at hospital. Along the way, and in the very midst of her health and life crisis, Geri observed that her light hearted approach to her treatment made things

easier for the nurses and other caregivers who were fighting to save her life. Geri observed that little things, like a silly joke about the hospital or her treatment or her decision to wear colorful, flashy art stockings (think of big socks with the image of Norwegian artist Edvard Munch's painting, "The Scream") on her chemotherapy day. This sort of thing led, during the course of her treatment, to Geri's imagination and idea to create a series of coloring books under the name "Greetings From Chemo Country" which were produced with the help of many of Geri's business associates who were commercial artists, or had skills (including legal skills) needed to publish such things as her imagination and creativity conceived. And after all, if you have to sit in place for a 6-hour chemotherapy treatment, why not spend your time creating something colorful, something artistic, and more to the point, something to help distract a patient from the toxic chemicals that were being injected into him or her. The coloring books, by the way, are free to the users. The underlying art, production, intellectual property – were mostly donated by like minded and good hearted people which, contrary to news reports, are out there everywhere.

Once again we witnessed a life story which reminds us how lucky we are and also, the things which a determined and positive mind can create for the betterment of all in the darkest of times. Thank you Geri.

And with that, Pres. Tom rang the bell on this latest instalment of his Reign of Terror. Hope to see you next Friday!

The correct answers to the Darrell Quiz are in bold italics:

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