

The Buzz

May 21, 2021

It was a crowded room today as many members were attending in person for the first time in months.

Guests: Stephanie Adomitis from Rotary International joined us today for the last time as a guest, next week she will be inducted as a full member. Andy Allman and Daniela Krivak of the Rotary Club of River Cities (Des Plaines, Mount Prospect and Prospect Heights) who will be today's speakers, Eric and Max Schmidt, Lisa Crocket, guest of the club Tammy Peterson, and then light-heartedly Dennis Oster who was in attendance for the first time in a year and half.

Wes's Good News:

- America's newest chess master is a 10-year-old boy whose family emigrated from Nigeria to escape Boko Haram.
- A Minnesota boy with a prosthetic leg befriended a puppy who was missing a paw.
- The athlete with the worse golf swing ever, Charles Barkley, has taken the time to improve his swing and Wes showed a video of the before and after. AMAZING!

Who's Happy?

- Pat G. was \$5 happy to many faces that she had been missing for the last year
- Dennis O. was \$20 happy for a successful recovery from prostate surgery and because he was at club in person
- Bruce was \$5 happy to have attended a concert at Arlington Height's Hey Nonny featuring blues great Erwin Helfer
- Holly was \$10 happy to see Bonnie and Jim at lunch
- John S. was also \$10 happy to see Bonnie and Jim
- Roger was \$1 happy to see Bonnie and Jim and \$4 happy that he and his daughter ran a 5K and a sweet man lifted the finish line ribbon so they could "break" the ribbon
- Jim was \$100 happy for ALL the wonderful support given to Bonnie and him in the wake of their son's death

Announcements:

In place of a District Conference, District Governor Lyle has decided to highlight 3 of the most active clubs in the district. On June 4th, our club will be highlighted. Wes asked as many members to be in attendance as possible while we welcome visitors from other clubs. The other clubs being highlighted at Buffalo Grove and Barrington Breakfast.

John S. requested volunteers to assist at the Memorial Day celebration taking place on the grounds of St. Peter's Church on Schaumburg Road. Please arrive by 10:00 a.m. to assist as ushers and to keep in keeping the center aisle clear for the color guard.

Wes announced that a decision was made at this morning's board meeting that club will be returning to "business as normal". We will be returning to charging each member for every lunch whether they attend or not. This will allow us to give a lunch guarantee and meet upstairs once again. Those who qualify for the Rule of 85 will continue to do so. The meeting will be shown on the Web but will no longer be interactive and if attending via the Web it will be considered an absence.

It was also decided that the Queen of Hearts/Diamonds raffle will only be available online and to members only.

Guest of the club Tammy Peterson donated a very nice ad in her Schaumburg magazine that is sent to all Schaumburg homeowners.

Nancy reminded people of this weekend's TOP GOLF fellowship and asked everyone to mark their calendars for the upcoming events: Installation-June 24, Holiday Party-December 3.

QUEEN OF DIAMONDS RAFFLE: Please see the email sent by Tom G. each Wednesday to purchase tickets and be eligible for the raffle. There is also an opportunity to "set it and forget it" by subscribing to a weekly ticket purchase. ALL tickets will need to be purchased by 12:15 so Tom has time to add them to the raffle board.

This week's winner was Ed Haag whose number 11 was not a winner.

Fun and Frolic or AKA Fun times with Allen

The usual fines were observed: \$2 for no pin, badge or being late.

- No answer to this week's question-\$2
- Male or Female wearing shorts-\$2
- Not attending the TOP GOLF event-\$2
- Mary was fined \$2 for advertising TOP GOLF
- No guest at your table-\$2
- No men at your table-\$2
- No women at your table-\$2
- Allen tries to come up with fun weekly questions but he guesses some are just too difficult for people. In answer to this week's question about a favorite childhood memory and why, Loren answered, "Always good to hear from you Allen." When Allen asked if Loren indeed wanted that to make his answer, he replied, "Of course." That will be a \$5 fine Loren
- Allen and Sarah had a bet going today. Sarah's favorite childhood memory was hunting geodes with her father. Allen didn't know what a geode was and Sarah bet that at least 24 club members would know what they were. Sarah lost that bet because only 12 people remembered that chapter from geology class.
- Mary was fined \$2 for talking over Sarah's explanation
- FINALLY, Allen has agreed to fine no one on June 4 during the District Conference.

PROGRAM:

Andy Ullman and Daniela Krivak of the Rotary Club of the River Cities spoke about their project in Bogota, Columbia. They are working with a nonprofit called Bibliosales to provide classes in technology, 3-D printing, robotics and other manufacturing skills. They are focusing this effort on teens who live in an impoverished community on the outskirts of Bogota. The youth in this area have few life choices due to poverty and the poor quality of that area's schools. Columbia has a thriving and growing technological and manufacturing community and need workers with those skills.

The Rotary Club of Bogota is also involved. The group is seeking funds to qualify for a Global Grant. Those grants are matched 100% to provide half of the \$60,000 they have as their goal. So far, they have between \$13,000-\$15,000. Looking for at least \$2500 from our club. Anyone who would like to share their skills would also be welcome. The administrative costs of the project will be paid by Bibliosales enabling all Rotary dollars to be used for the project itself.

Global Grant money cannot be used for brick and mortar so Rotary dollars will provide the technological equipment and teaching materials. The building to house the school is being built by those in Bogota so there is some "skin in the game" to make keeping the building safe and kept intact will be seen as a valuable goal.

Teens will be screened for academic achievement and technological aptitude. They hope to offer three classes of 60 annually. Goal is to graduate the first class this coming December.

Graduates will receive a certificate of their accomplishment that will assist them in gaining entrance to university, to gain employment, or even start their own company. They are working with area companies to ensure that the skills being taught are the ones needed.

During the COVID 19 Zoom meeting times, the Rivers Cities Club sought out international clubs to join them in their Zooms. They even held a holiday party with a club in Ukraine. During a Zoom with the Bogota Club they met Wally who told them about this opportunity. Wally also joined in today's meeting via Zoom from his home in Bogota.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20