

THE BUZZ: 2/23/24

I must start by saying that based on the anticipation of our “CLASSIC” (The biggest (FUNraiser of the year), the room was electric!!! Rachel was in top form by starting the meeting on time and announcing that, to date, we have well over \$100,000 in corporate sponsorships!! That’s a big WOW!!! Hardy thanks go to George P. for his hard work!!! And a special THANKS goes to Loren Trimble for his sponsorship this year

Guests:

-Lizzy Applebee our speaker

-Courtney, guest of Rosemary from Dave and Busters

Joe Risteca, Mary’s (a prospective member) from RE/MAX

Announcements:

Gayle and Rachel Obviously: the **Classic** is on everyone’s mind. Gayle and her team have done an excellent job organizing this year’s event, so everyone, grab your paddles and your dancing shoes, because Saturday night we’re going **silent** but our bids will be **loud!** With over 280 people in the room, if we get lost, let’s meet at the treasure chest – it’s where I’ll be counting my future cash winnings. Remember, the only thing better than a trip to Mexico is winning a trip to Mexico while doing the cha-cha. And for those eyeing Tuscany, let’s make a deal: if you win, I carry your bags; Don’t forget the split-the-pot raffle; it’s like a magic trick where you might turn your ticket into a wad of cash! So, let’s raise our glasses and our auction paddles, because Saturday night, we’re not just dancing – we’re making generosity look good! Remember that we need volunteers for the check-in and check-out processing, and tending the 50/50 raffle. Everyone has a talent to bring to the event, so let’s use them. In case of spontaneous conga lines, excessive laughter, or outbreaks of contagious generosity, consult your inner Rotarian. Side effects may include community impact and warm fuzzies. See you there!!!

-**Jim F.** updated us on the March Madness tournament and was hoping to round out the entries soon. Several Rotarians stepped up with wanting spots. I’m sorry, but we need younger membership because, I for one, am picturing a room full of silver haired and balding Rotarians huddled around a table covered in brackets. They’re sipping drinks, adjusting bifocals, and placing bets on college basketball. The stakes??? Not money, my friends. No, these wise elders are wagering their precious supply of prune juice and early bird dinner reservations. Forget March Madness, this is Geriatric Madness. Thanks, Jim, for your efforts!

-Gene and Linda continue to offer the club a variety of entertainment experiences like the interactive experience of Joey and Maria's Wedding on April 6th. Not only will you witness the talent of Gene's child as a rising star, you can showoff some of the 4-Way Test principles like;

1. **Service Above Self:** You can serve yourself to the dance floor and show off those moves you've been practicing at the Rotary meetings.
2. **International Understanding:** You'll finally understand the true meaning of "international" when you see the variety of dances on display.

So, as you watch Joey and Maria drive off into the sunset remember this: Love is a lot like our Rotary club----it thrives on fellowship, shared goals, and the occasional fine master raising money (yes Jeff) for the kids.

So, don your best attire, practice your toasts, and get ready to add a dash of Rotary spirit to the celebration!

-Mary announced a Feed My Starving Children Community Service event with the date to be determined.

-Bill announced a delegation from India will be in our district in July and is in need of host families and drivers for the week. We are hosting with the Barrington Club and Holly will be scheduling volunteers. Bill also mentioned that an outbound exchange will be held in January of 2025.

Happy \$\$\$

Holly- drove for Meals on Wheels and really experienced the power of Rotary to make a difference by spending time with an elderly client who not only needed food, but seemed a little depressed and in need of some human interaction and attention. Well, as usual, Holly delivered by noticing a piano in the room and asking the lady to play it for a while. The client perked up and played and Holly said it was an incredibly rewarding experience.

-Gillet was happy that a group of business people gathered in Chicago on this date to discuss the formation of what is now Rotary. Thanks for the history lesson, Gillet.

-Jack announced that there was a full house at the Barn for meals this month. 110 in person and 20 pick-ups. And a sincere thanks went out to all the Rotary volunteers.

-Gayle Found many records online, which were needed for the decorating theme to support the Classic. Gayle related a big THANKYOU to the ELK Grove Police Dept. for assistance in their escort to a "Sketchy" warehouse area where the record donation pick up was scheduled.

-Bill was in appreciation for his marvelous trip to Savanna with Jeannie and child.

-Gene was again proud of his talented child's starring performance in "Star Catcher" and "Joey and Maria's Wedding." In addition, Gene was happy to have attended a great Home Buyers Conference and also, the successful efforts to get Whole Foods to donate fresh produce to Conant High School. Thanks for all that you do Gene!!

Fun and Frolic...George P.

Goerge's 'FINEmastering' was simple but entertaining and affective. George took on the mantle of Jonny Carson's Karnac the Magnificent character. 5 hermetically envelopes appeared with the following questions ...1. Club budget, gas and the Michlin Man..(3 things that are over inflated). 2 Rotary International Hockey Team..(a team that the Blackhawks can beat). 3 Pictures of where dollars used to be...(what wallets look like after joining Rotary. 4 Uber driver's dream....(200 drunk Rotarians calling after the Classic). 5. 1-2-3... (What every Rotarian's password is on Club runner).

"Queen Of Hearts"

Mike Olach's name was called. Number 10 was selected which yielded the 9 of spades. Sorry, Mike.

PROGRAM:

Lizzy Appleby, LCSW (she/her/hers pronouns) is a facilitator with a passion for working with youth and adults to create a more radically welcoming, inclusive, and kind world. Currently, she serves as the Pride/Share Director at Youth Services in Glenview, overseeing several youth programs. Since 2015, she has overseen the Pride Youth Program, which provides opportunities for more than 250 LGBTQ+ youth and their families across the North Shore through social, support, and leadership programming. Additionally, Lizzy frequently provides professional development training and consultation to educators, administrators, therapists, librarians, and others focused on creating affirming spaces for LGBTQ+ young people. She believes in the power of storytelling, relationships, and experiential learning to help us grow and change our world.

One thing that was very obvious from the beginning is how complex it is because it encompasses many dimensions beyond race and gender, such as socio-economic status, education, geography, and more. Capturing the full scope of diversity requires a nuanced approach.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion are three closely linked values held by many organizations that are working to be supportive of different groups of individuals, including people of different races, ethnicities, religions, abilities, genders, and sexual orientations.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion are often grouped together because they are interconnected and it is only in combination that their true impact emerges. Some organizations include related concepts, such as belonging, in their DEI strategies. But all of these terms are also easily misunderstood. It's important to grasp the individual meanings and implications of each of these terms:

DEI stands for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. For a Rotary Club, which is all about community service and ethical leadership, embracing DEI means:

- **Diversity:** Bringing together a rich mix of people with different life experiences, cultures, and ideas. It's like having a vibrant palette of colors to paint a more beautiful world.
- **Equity:** Making sure everyone has access to the same opportunities. It's not just about treating everyone the same, but giving them what they need to thrive.
- **Inclusion:** Creating an environment where everyone feels welcome and valued. It's like saying, "Come on in, there's a place for you here!"

Now, why is DEI beneficial for a Rotary Club? Well, it's simple:

- **Broader Impact:** A diverse club can reach more people and understand their needs better, making their service projects more effective.
- **Richer Ideas:** With so many different perspectives, the club can come up with more creative and innovative solutions to problems.
- **Stronger Community:** When people feel included, they're more likely to get involved and stay engaged, building a stronger, more vibrant club.

So, by weaving DEI into its fabric, a Rotary Club doesn't just grow in numbers, but also in heart, impact, and resilience. It's all about making sure everyone has a seat at the table and a chance to make a difference