

The Buzz

December 18, 2020

- Meeting was called to order at 12:15 with the striking of the whiskey bottle.
- Julie C. led the Pledge of Allegiance
- Gary A. led the Four Way Pact
- Jack L. led the invocation

Wes's Good News:

- Laird Funeral Home in Elgin performed a funeral and arranged for burial in the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery for a Marine Veteran who had no family. Many Marines heard about this and showed up. An addendum to the story is that due to the article in the paper, the man's family came forward. They had been looking for him for several years.
- Henry the crocodile turned 120 years old this week. WOW! The stories he could tell if only he could talk.
- Anchorwoman Tania Babich started wearing her glasses while doing the news. Viewers wanted to know why. The reason is the best according to this reporter: She discovered that her daughter wasn't wearing her glasses because people were making fun of her. Tania decided to wear hers on camera and told her daughter she was beautiful with or without glasses and to love herself and not let her self-worth be dictated by others. What a great lesson!

Who's Happy?

- Wes was happy to say that his father in law who is a dentist in central Illinois, received the coronavirus vaccine
- Jim F. opened a TIK-TOK account and saw an advertisement for cookies from Rosie's Place in Indiana. He bought some of the cookies and pronounced them DELICIOUS!
- Mary Jo just realized that one of her good friends whose children have grown up with her children is Pat G.'s daughter: small world
- Bruce was grateful to Roger for filling in as the BUZZ reporter last Friday
- Pat G. and her lucky husband celebrate 55 years of marriage today. That's a commitment.

Announcements:

Wes is now halfway through his Rotary year. He sent out a giant thank you to all who have made Rotary a priority and have continued to meet via WEBEX and work all of the club service activities.

Eileen announced that the last senior lunch at the Schaumburg Barn will be held tomorrow. Thanks to those who have already volunteered: Two more were needed and as usual, two Rotarians volunteered immediately. There is also the hand out of food to the Trickster Gallery veterans on Sunday. Chandler's is providing a complete turkey dinner with all the trimmings and dessert for only \$7.00/person. This will be a quick two-hour activity. Volunteers will be working at Chandler's from 11:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. There was some leftover money so it was given to Joe to provide treats for veterans who are shut-in. Rotary is brightening countless lives this holiday season.

Bill K. was very impressed with the sponsorship link for the Classic. He is proud to say that Kelley, Kelley and Kelley area \$2500 sponsors. Due to the lower overhead costs, sponsorship provides a much bigger bang than in years where there is a need to provide meals. Bill encouraged each Rotary business to take advantage of this offering.

Tom G. provided his slate of officers for the 2021-22 year. He will send the slate via an email. After correcting the verbiage of the slate, Terry P. motioned for acceptance and Allen G. seconded. The slate passed. Tom will send that slate via email so all can see next year's slate.

QUEEN OF HEARTS RAFFLE: Lots of players this week. You can see the link each Wednesday in Tom's email. Pat G.'s name was called but she got the 5 of Diamonds so no winner.

Fun and Frolic: Allen Gabe the Master Finer (I do believe he collects the most money)

This week's question involved Holiday movies. Many Rotarians chose the same movies. Here were the top three:

- It's a Wonderful Life (check out the alternate ending via the SNL Youtube video)
- Tied for second place were White Christmas and Christmas Vacation.
- Those who didn't guess the winner owed \$2

The quizzes kept coming. Wrong answers cost \$2

Guess the correct birth names of the following: * denotes the correct answer

Archibald Leach:

- Cary Grant *
- David Niven
- Robert Montgomery

Bernard Schwartz:

- Clark Gable
- Tony Curtis*
- Roger Moore

Issur Danielovitch

- Roger Moore
- Kirk Douglas*
- Robert Mitchum

There were others but this writer couldn't hear what they were, sorry 😞

If you didn't respond to Allen, that is a \$2 fine.

Juli L. answered last for a \$2 fine and was also fined along with Steve L. for choosing the not very uplifting DIE HARD as their favorite holiday movie.

Unusual answers were given by

- Bruce D. -The Nightmare Before Christmas
- Darrell M.- The St. Valentine's Day Massacre
- Eileen H. -Planes, Trains and Automobiles (because we have all lived through that nightmare)

The always honest Don M. chose The Holiday because it is sentimental with a great ending. ALSO Cameron Diaz is really easy on the eyes.

There will not be a meeting until January 8th so Allen wanted to ensure that we all paid PLENTY of fines so they just kept coming:

No pins, late, etc. \$2

- He loved the glasses story from happy news, so if you weren't wearing glasses on today's WEBEX, pay \$2
- Jim F. was fined \$2 for not sharing his delicious cookies with the club
- Anyone eating Jimmy John's during the meeting was fined \$2
- Those not in Rotary attire were fined \$3
- If you matched Allen's Rotary attire, you were absolved from paying any fines
- Not wearing some type of Holiday attire at the meeting, \$3
- Not volunteering at either of this weekend's service projects? \$2/day
- FINALLY, Bob F. didn't give a holiday movie, but suggested that his time in Seville at Christmas '66 and Passover '66 were some unusual and fantastic times for a young Robert F. Hmmmm, maybe he will share the stories at a future program.

WOW!!!! That should fill the coffers. Don't forget to pay online. See Tom's Wednesday email for the links to payment.

PROGRAM:

Paul Meincke of Channel 7 News was today's speaker. He had a wonderful idea for then United States government: Hire Allen to collect money from taxpayers and balance the budget \$2 at a time 😊 He also gave a shout out to Mary Jo's husband Jack who was Paul's son Bill's teacher who inspired Bill to take an interest in chess. The trips to chess tournaments and the time spent playing is a great family memory. Paul recently retired after working at Channel 7 for thirty years. He is married to Wendy who is also an award-winning reporter who recently received a Silver Circle award. They have four wonderful sons. Terry also congratulated Paul on his many years of working with the Boy Scouts.

Paul grew up in Rock Island, Illinois and is a 1972 graduate of Augustana University. He grew up watching CBS and NBC news because those were the only two channels they received in Rock Island so he was greatly influenced by Walter Cronkite and Huntley & Brinkley. He distinctly remembers watching the political conventions of 1960 and being influenced by Sander Vanocur.

Paul addressed the question of "fake news." He believes that most news reporters strive to present the truth. Most cherish fact over fiction and chose to report only what can be backed up with facts. When asked how people can trust the news with all the disparate stories out there, Paul suggested getting news from a wide range of trusted news organizations who take the time to use fact finders prior to reporting. He also warned against taking articles found on social media and believing them without using one of the many fact-checking sites available to ascertain their verity.

Paul told a variety of interesting stories about his reporting days. Here are some highlights:

- Being hit by lightning while on camera which led to a rule that reporters were no longer to be attached to all the electronic equipment when reporting during a storm.
- Nearly drowning along with his cameraman, a police chief and a deputy while covering an Indiana flood
- Covering the Persian Gulf war and encountering Iraqi soldiers, "tough as nails" BBC reporters, bullets raining from the skies in Kuwait, and Iraqi soldiers who surrendered to Forrest Sawyer.
- Experiencing bombs, an earthquake, an irate crowd outside a bombed house and numerous future war criminals while covering the Jesse Jackson delegation to Belgrade during the war in the former Yugoslavia.
- He also covered Rod Blagojevich during his corruption trials. Interesting fact: Blago never met a hand he wouldn't shake- he is the ultimate wannabe people-pleasing politician.

He closed with acknowledging that news has come a long way from the time when Walter Cronkite stated that he was going to take a moment to state his own opinion about the Vietnam War. Again, most reporters are dedicated to the truth, but if you have questions, check the facts.

In answer to a question from Eileen and said the most satisfactory part of his job is when his reporting makes a difference in a person's life.

Mary Jo led the Club in the four way test and the meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.