



Meeting on St Paddy's Day!

Yes it was a fine St. Paddy's Day for all those who attended what was arguably the finest meeting of this Rotary Year, with delicious Soda Bread baked by our Rotary Sister, Holly F, and a visit from Constable Murphy – but I get ahead of mee-self. PE Rachel opened the meeting in the usual way and we welcomed two guests: Erica Chianelli, Executive Director of “Family Forward” and our speaker for the day, a very Irish Theresa Goodrich from “The Local Tourist.Com.” To our guests, thanks for coming, and welcome!

Announcements

We were informed or reminded or nagged (or all of the above) that:

1. JimFab let us know who were the winners and losers in the NCAA
2. Jim Mc let us know that the “Jim McCulla Jr.” fireworks show was being put off to March 25 due to inclement weather. The show pays homage to the son of Jim and Bonnie who tragically passed, living life to the fullest. For those who plan to see the show in E. Dundee this coming Saturday, please call Jim or Bonnie for details.
3. Wes C let us all know the many, many ways to pay our bills to the Club.
4. Bill Kelly reminded us that we are 6 weeks from the Classic and we should be moving with a purpose in our efforts to make this year's Classic the best ever.
5. Roger S encouraged us all to get more golf packages at the more tony courses, if you can. Roger also said something about being the Club Sexitary, but sorry, your Buzzer really has no idea of what Roger was trying to say.
6. Guest Erica Chianelli introduced herself to the Club and described what her NFP (Family-Forward.Org) did - which sounded a lot like what we do – distributing gift cards to those in need. Nice to meet you Erica.
7. Next Jim Mc invited all of the Club's Major Donors (Bill K, Nancy R, Mike E) to the podium to welcome the next Major Doner: Eileen H! Congratulations Eileen.
8. PE Rachel reminded us that the Memorial Day celebration is on our Rotary Calender.
9. Allen G thanked the Club members who have stepped up to help with the Classic.

😊😊😊😊😊 Happiness 😊😊😊😊😊

A special lilt was in the air as happiness made so many of us stand up and be happy, including:

Nancy R was happy about the recognition the Club received for the Tool Box Ceremony;

Roger was happy about Holly's Irish Soda Bread and also something he will be doing in Nashville with his daughter Sara;

Mike E said something about Kings, but he was too far away from your Buzzer who didn't hear the rest of what he said;

JimFab was happy it was St. Patty's Day;

JimFab's nephew Wes was even happier than his Uncle Jim on that subject;

Bill K was happy about Holly's Soda Bread, Don M's efforts on the Tool Kit project and something that Chris H did;

Ed H was happy to spend some quality time in Vail with his wonderful wife Debbie;

Dennis O was happy to be back in Illinois and specifically at our Rotary Club meeting;

Eileen H was happy about all of the accomplishments of our Fishing Well.

Wendy was happy about something that escaped my hearing! But it was a genuine Happy, I can assure you all of that!

Bruce D was happy because he found out this week (from 26 & me) that he was, indeed, a teeny weeny bit Irish – and that was better than having no Irish ancestry whatsoever! Erin go Bragh!

Don M was happy about the Tool Kit Ceremony – and Mr. Don, you deserve every last ounce of the praise for your hard work to improve the lives of so many.

and

Nancy R was so happy to attend the Flowers and (w)hoopa fellowship event last Sunday!

But it wasn't over yet.

Bill K rose to recite the lyric of an Irish blessing: May the Road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Blessings to you for that, my brother.

And to cap it off,

Don M acknowledged his gratitude for the assistance he received, without any fanfare, from Tom G, in connection with the Toolkit project.

So, do you see what I mean about happiness? It kinda makes you wish that it could be St. Paddy's every Friday. Oh well.

Queen of Hearts

Terry Parke was lucky enough to be selected to seek the Queen of Hearts but alas, all he got was a 2 of Diamonds. Too bad Terry. Better luck next time.

😞😞😞😞😞 **Finemastering** 😞😞😞😞😞

Then, in a twinkling of the eye, we traveled from the grace of an Irish Spring to the not so kind ministrations of our Finemaster, Allen G, who rose from his place of repose and came to make us pay for our foibles, as he fined:

Everyone:

- who went to a college whose basketball team wasn't in the NCAA;
- who wasn't wearing green;
- who was wearing green that bore no reference to the Irish;
- who had a haircut like JimFab;
- the pinless, the badgeless, the tardy;
- who hadn't contributed to the silent auction;
- who hadn't turned in their Classic ties;
-

Something that Roger S did and another thing that Bill K did, and even more about something Mike E said (about marriage to an Irish lass)

But then – Glory be and the Saints Be Praised! We had a visit from the tall, fair and well armed Officer Murphy!

Yes, Officer Murphy, a kindly peace officer with a wicked swing of his nightstick, came to help us properly celebrate St. Paddy's, and the first step was to tamp out the Finemastering and organize a group of songsters to sing Irish Classics, getting Jim, Wendy, Holly and Bruce up to sing "When Irish Eyes are Smiling" and otherwise making us happy! (you really must go to Clubrunner and download our Youtube of our meetings and watch this part of the meeting!)

But all things must pass and so as Officer Murphy took leave of our meeting, our Finemaster administered a scattering of closing fines to people who didn't use the coat room or were playing with their phones during the meeting, as the fining, mercifully, sputtered to an end.

Program – Theresa Goodrich

Theresa Goodrich spoke to the history of the Irish in the United States and especially in Chicago. Her program was worth a listen, and this Buzzer encourages you to check her out on the Club's Youtube channel!

And with that, we hope you had a great weekend and we look forward to seeing you next Friday at noon!