

The Buzz



February 27, 2026

The meeting was called to order by President Ted Gross at 12:15 pm.

Pledge was led by George P. Four-way pact was led by Randy, and Jack Lucas did the invocation.

Announcements

- ❖ Jim F said he was still down 40 people for the NCAA pool. Please help as he will take anyone with \$100. Jim will go to the AM club next week to twist some arms. Ted added that this one is not for kids. It is to keep our dues down. Deadline is March 13.
- ❖ A member from the AM group was here to say thank you for the support of their club at the Superbowl of Soups. It was a great success with over 400 people in attendance.
- ❖ Holly announced that we will be supporting the Wings Easter Baskets. We need someone to facilitate this. There are 16 baskets needed. \$30 to \$50 a basket. Securely wrapped in heavy cellophane. Rachel H said she would. Thank you, Racheal, You Rock!
- ❖ Shea, Possible May Fellowship. Lives in a Highrise. There is a 20th floor lounge with a great view, maybe coupled with a boat tour of Chicago. Please let him know as it would take a little time to plan.
- ❖ Ted, we will be here at Bella Napoli. Back to Chandlers on March 13. Bar Down on March 20th. Board Meeting at 10:15. Then the NCAA games begin around 10:55 followed by our regular meeting at 12:15. Followed by more Games and Drinks.
- ❖ Ted will be starting to work with Diane on the budget for next year. If you are a chair or liaison and need funds, please be sure to let Ted or Diane know.

Happy Dollars

- ❖ Linda just got back from Vagas from a work conference. There were a couple press secretaries as speakers. That was fun. She didn't know what they did so that was educational. They went to see Wizard of Oz at the Sphere. Went on a Ferris wheel bar and an Ice Bar thing. Came back with more money than she went with, so she is giving her overage as Happy dollars. \$2.49.
- ❖ Holly, Happy to see everyone but it is lovely in Panama.
- ❖ Allen is happy that Teresa is here. She has been with the club for a long time. She doesn't have a lot of time to be here. She bought 2 Classic tickets and 2 NCAA spots. He was also happy that so many people from our club showed up last week. He believes there were more there last night than at the meeting today.

- ❖ Shea is happy for the wonderful weather outside today. He is also happy to see everyone. His mother has lung cancer, and they found a brain tumor. He is happy that the brain tumor is not metastatic.
- ❖ Bill K, for Christy Richie had successful surgery on her foot. She was told to not put any weight on it for about 8 weeks. She will not be here for a bit so please consider sending her a card or giving her a call.
- ❖ Jim F. has \$5. He was invited by Shea and PNC to go to Hallis Hall and have a networking event. There were only 100 people there. He met and took a picture with Israel Idonije. Past player. He is a house. Met a lot of great people and had a great time.
- ❖ Mary is \$5 happy. Last week my daughter-in-law, who is an amputee, took a horrible fall off a horse and shattered her femur. She is coming home today.
- ❖ \$2 happy dollars. He can't tell us how much he appreciates what everyone has done. He realizes how much it takes to get something like this done. Thank you from the bottom of his heart. 3 Dollars for Tom for mentioning his daughter when he wasn't here. Bailey was in a fashion design competition at Harper and now she is moving on to state. Yay Bailey. And Tom was right. Bailey was doing something.
- ❖ Holly is \$5 more happy. She went to the International Service Trip in Costa Rica. She drove there from Panama. A was bit scary. But super cool. She got to hang out with 15 other Rotarians. I wanted to get something framed. She went to a framing shop, and it turned out to be a former District Governor. She knew she was in great hands.

Fun and Frolic

- ❖ Pauline. Allen brought her into the club He was at a networking event and asked her to hold his seat. When he came back, she did not hold his seat. He fined her \$2 but since she wasn't here sooner, that will be a total of \$5 because he had to wait 3 weeks.
- ❖ Glen, you won the 50/50 raffle last night. He is not fining Glen but wants to know how much he is donating. Glen donated \$20.00
- ❖ Couple people were Late. Mary was late but interrupted Allen to let him know she was writing the Buzz. \$2
- ❖ No pin
- ❖ No badge \$2
- ❖ Roger where is your badge. He stated it was in the box. Doesn't belong there \$2.
- ❖ Roger you are too casual. \$2
- ❖ No Classic tickets today. \$2
- ❖ Ken Busch your phone went off. \$5
- ❖ No donation to the silent auction. \$2
- ❖ How many baseball fans? Who does not know who Ernie Banks is? Shea raised his hand. Allen explained who he was and fined Shea. Vince interrupted, asking how someone doesn't know who Ernie Banks is. Allen fined him \$5 Three signed baseballs for the auction. Ernie Banks, Hall of Famer Lee Smith and third is not as famous and not in the hall of Fame, Pete Rose. Vince argued that he is and got fined \$5 more dollars.
- ❖ If you're wearing anything with a company logo, \$5

- ❖ No Guest at your table \$2
- ❖ No woman at your table \$2
- ❖ Jim F got a fine for bringing up something Allen told hm to \$2
- ❖ Holly, there are new members since you were last here. Ken Busch, Shae, Jack Lucas. How many meetings have you missed. She said maybe 50. Allen was not going to fine her but instead do the same this as he did with Glen. How much do you want to donate and remember it is for the kids. Holly donated \$10
- ❖ Gene W please stand up. Your daughter is going down state for fashion design. It obviously did not rub off on you. \$2
- ❖ No Rotary attire, \$2
- ❖ Not the same Roary Sweater as Allen, \$2 If anyone says they are they are fibbing because Allen's wife had his made especially for him.
- ❖ Ted Stated this is still less than Jim F fined him when he started. It was \$18 to \$19 a week. Jim F was very proud.

What's in the box

One ticket for a dollar 6 for \$5 Money was going toward the Booze Wagon for the Classic.
\$116 collected. George D picked Bob F ticket. Soooo, What's in the box?

- ❖ Lots of salted Carmel Starbucks Hot Cocoa.
- ❖ Arch PMI mortgage insurance Co sticky pads.
- ❖ Batman Hot wheels.
- ❖ Small bottle of Prosecco.
- ❖ A free meal at McAlister's.
- ❖ Newly acquired plastic silverware all the way from luxurious Superbowl of Soups.
- ❖ Box Champignon Caramels.
- ❖ Ribbon exactly matching the colors and patterns of Bob's shirt.
- ❖ A Bears Cozy
- ❖ A pack of antique "C" batteries from Toys "R" Us
- ❖ A framed picture of someone's dog
- ❖ Hoffman Estates sippy bottle
- ❖ 2 tickets to the Windy City Bulls.

Program

Club Assembly

- ❖ Fireside Chat at Allen Gabe's house on February 12 was very well attended. This was well represented in terms of years in club and years in age. Both high and low. Frank discussion. Spoke of future issues facing the club and the direction of the club. There will be a formal debriefing of the meeting summarized at the March Club Assembly. One thing was very clear; we need to live up to the two banners. Please assume good intentions when reading emails, text or phone messages. PLEASE be kind in the way you say it.
- ❖ Allen please come up to present something. Allen spoke of Uncle Joe. His funeral was this past Wednesday. Allen wanted to share with the club something Uncle Joe's son Jay said to him. He

told Allen You know you and my dad used to really go at it once in a while. Allen agreed that was true. But they always did it in a proper way. He shared a moment when Uncle Joe came to his defense when someone said something not called for to Allen at a district conference. Allen and others shared a few stories of time when they didn't always agree on everything, but they stood by one another. Remember we are all here for the same reason.

- ❖ The Classic. Let's talk about next Saturday.
- ❖ Shae talked to some people about ticket sales. Cheeks in the seats. He a Wendy shared the cost of two free Dinner only tickets for members of the food pantry. SLFS 2 tickets Racheal and Shae. CAC 2 tickets paid for by Shea and Gillette. Shae asked about what other organizations others might get behind. We are doing paddle raises for some of these. Let them come see what we do. GiGi's 2 tickets from Roger and Bill K. Wings, 2 tickets from George P. and Jim F. Boy scouts. 2 tickets from Bill K and Rodger. Keneth Young Center. Mike E and Bill K. Great Idea Shae and Wendy. Micro wins. Israel Idonije's manta. There is 14 tickets fo dinner and 14 more people to spend money
- ❖ George on sponsorships. It has been said that any club with more than \$90,000 in sponsorships is filled with a lot of good-looking people. We are at \$94,000. Just a few less bucks short of last year. George suggested giving extra tickets to some of our sponsors. It was suggested that could be Napleton, and Dave Ligman.
- ❖ Silent Auction. Rachel said we have a lot of items, and more are coming in. We are going live mid afternoon on Wednesday. We typically start at 40% of value. We are looking at about 80 baskets plus \$510 in donations to add to of make additional baskets. Looking for craft beer for a basket. Shae also gave a quick overview. Look on better Unite. Everyone has a unique link so don't send yours out. Rachel will send out instructions.
- ❖ George read all the sponsors.
- ❖ Ticket count update: 497 Tickets sold and 259 dinners. Cut off on Tuesday.
- ❖ Rahl Jewelers donated a beautiful bracelet for the auction.
- ❖ Top ticket sellers. Nancy Redmond 84. Lorin 41, Berry 34, Allan 29, Jean S 16, Glen, 15 But he and others turn in more today. Jack 11, Jim A 11, Jeff M 10, Bill K 10.
- ❖ Tickets will be on sale until 7)) pm at the event.
- ❖ Wendy asked for everyone on the classic committee to stand so she could see everyone involved.

Closing Announcements

Regular scheduled meeting next week.

Closing

The four-way test was led by Ken Busch