

Rotary

Club of Schaumburg- Hoffman
Estates, Illinois, U.S.A.



THE BUZZ

October 8, 2021

CALLED TO ORDER: 12:15 pm

GUESTS: Wendy (last time as a guest) Paszkiewicz; Randy Gangaloo; Anastasia (couldn't hear her last name), Brett Weiss, speaker and Naperville Rotarian

NEW MEMBER INDUCTION: Wendy Paszkiewicz was inducted as a new member. She was sponsored by Gary A. George P, stood in as Gary's proxy to induct Wendy. Wendy is a clinical Psychologist. Married, lives in HE for 19 years. Has 2 daughters in college, 1 at HEHS. Wendy grew up in Grosse Point, MI and much to Allen's joy went to Michigan St.

She works at Adler University but will be opening a private practice soon. She plays in two recreational soccer leagues.

GOOD ROTARY NEWS: Dist. 6440 says that only 20% of District members donate to End Polio Now, so the good news was that 80 percent of District member can still choose to do so significantly increasing the District's contributions. See Glenn G. with any questions regarding donating to the End Polio Now fund.

HAPPY DOLLARS: Wes was \$10.00 Happy as his twin boys were born. Jonah and Quinn. Both were in the NICU still, but Quinn was going to be coming home over the weekend. Congratulations to the proud father!!

Allen Gabe was \$10 happy for Wes and Grandpa Don

President Tom was happy for his "non-football" playing sons. His older son is studying Physical Therapy and had his White Coat ceremony. However, Tom was apparently happier about his son figuring out AV issues while running the ceremony than he was about his son receiving the white coat. Tom realizing how that sounded, quickly added that he was still very proud about him receiving the white coat. And Tom's youngest son, made the NIU Jazz Band, the only non-music

Rotary

Club of Schaumburg- Hoffman Estates, Illinois, U.S.A.



major to do so (as a former band Geek, I can say that is quite the accomplishment). Congratulations to Tom and his sons!!

Nancy was happy for all the hard work put in by Gayle, Holly and Jean for the Vacation Drawing.

Bill K, was \$2 happy that he and his wife were going somewhere...I am sorry I missed it, but he was also happy about the Whitesox being in the playoffs.

Rachel was happy that the club has 2 new members and more coming and that she is going to Door County.

Wendy was happy to become a new member.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Autumn Harvest Dinner is going to be on October 23, 2021, at 6:30 pm. See the website. Bonnie said that all members, their spouses, and "other spouses.".... "or whomever you want to invite," are all welcome. This will be solely a fellowship event, so all are encouraged to attend if possible.

Holly announced that the Vacation Drawing surpassed our goal of \$25(k) and finished with a total of \$28,360.00 on 1418 tickets sold.

QUEEN OF DIAMONDS:

Glenn Garlick was the winner. Number 44 was chosen, it was 7 of Spades, pot rolls over.

TIME TO EAT

FUN AND FROLIC: Jeff Miller performed fine mastering duties.

Not sure of the exact exchange that took place, but Jeff Miller was a last-minute fill-in. It seems that Jeff and President Tom had an email exchange about the artistry of fine mastering and President Tom apparently mocked Jeff pre-meeting about the artistry of fine mastering, or lack thereof.

Jeff started off with President Tom who was fined \$15 for the mocking and for putting Jeff on a very rigid time schedule to conduct his Fine Mastering Art.

Wendy was given her 1st official fine. I assume Allen and Jim will each have something to say about that in the future.

Rotary

Club of Schaumburg- Hoffman Estates, Illinois, U.S.A.



Jeff asked how many members of the club thought he had been exaggerating a bit about his Pickle Ball prowess over the last few years. Everyone who raised their hands was fined because Jeff assures that he has been 100% accurate about his phenomenal Pickle Ball skills.

Jean, Holly, and Gayle were all exempt for their work on the Vacation Drawing.

Tim and Wendy were fined for wearing Red Badges.

Our guest speaker was fined for losing his Naperville Rotary Badge in the parking lot.

Roger was fined for making a joke during introduction of visitors about him growing up with his good friend Randy Gangaloo and their challenges emigrating from Trinidad. Jeff fined Roger because Jeff did actually emigrate from Trinidad via raft, and he says it is no laughing matter.

Wes was fined for joining the parent club.

Bonnie or Jim (it was up to them) was fined for Bonnie's suggestions that we bring our "other spouse" to the fellowship event.

We then had a quiz for fines.

1. Where would Nancy go if she won the Vacation Drawing? Cabo, Aruba, Vega, Napa. Cabo was the answer.

Then we played Bet on a Rotarian for the rest of the quiz. Bill Kelly was chosen, had no prior knowledge of the questions, and we had to guess if Bill would get the answers right, which all had to do with National Podiatry Day.

2. What is Shaquille O'Neal's shoe size, 18, 23, 28, 32? Bill guessed 23, he was correct.

3. What was the largest shoe size ever, 28EEE, 30.5D, 37AAA, 41, AAA? Bill guessed 28EEE. He was wrong. The correct answer was 37AAA which was a shoe that was 18" long.

4. The average foot has 250,000 sweat glands. Jeff asked how much sweat does the average foot generate each day? 2 oz, ½ pint, ¾ pint, 1 pint. Bill guessed wrong, the correct answer was ½ pint.

Rotary

Club of Schaumburg- Hoffman Estates, Illinois, U.S.A.



5. Audrey Hepburn was 5'3" 103 lbs. but wore a 10.5 size shoes. Jeff asked who had the same shoe size:

Jackie Kennedy 5'7 123 lbs, Oprah, 5'6", 189 lbs., 10.5, or Uma Thurman 5'11" 140 lbs. Bill guessed Oprah; he was correct. Jackie wore a size 10 and Uma wears a size 11.

President Tom then thanked Jeff for his efforts and declared that Fine Mastering is indeed an art, but that he didn't realize it because he was so used to Allen doing it. I am sure this will not be the last we hear on the subject.

PRESENTATION: Our speaker was Brett Weiss who is a Naperville Rotarian and a retired teacher. He spoke about his travels to Kenya, his experiences there, a book he wrote, and a foundation he created to help students from a rural Kenyan town.

Brett Weiss created the HOPE Weiss Scholarship Foundation. It funds scholarships for rural Kenyan students to attend high school. It is very rare for children of Kenya to move past the 4th grade.

Brett reported that ½ of the world's children in the world get little to no education.

Brett's efforts were part of a WGN Chicago's Very Own segment that ran just before the pandemic.

Brett indicated he first visited Kenya in 2009. That is when he learned that most students don't get passed 4th grade. Mostly because they can make money (\$1 per day) working in the fields. Highschool is not paid for by the government so very few students go.

His foundation provides scholarships to send the rural students to the high school. This has resulted in an increased number of students from the town going through 8th grade (doubled since he first went there) as they all hope to win a scholarship.

His scholarships pay for all 4 years of a student's education. The scholarships are split evenly between girls and boys.

The Foundation has also created vocational schools for those that don't go to the high school.

They have given out 101 scholarships since 2017.

15 of his students have finished and gone to college, and 17 are in post-high school vocational schools.

Rotary

Club of Schaumburg- Hoffman Estates, Illinois, U.S.A.



The standardized test the Kenyan School system gives after 8th grade (which you need to pass to be eligible for high school) used to see the boys do 20% better than girls. In part because when help is needed at home girls are expected to fill in. However, with more kids attending through 8th grade and the competition to get scholarships, the girls have closed the gap such that the boys are currently only performing 3% better as of the last test. Brett thinks the gap will be completely gone by the next year.

The foundation employs 2 full time people and 3 part time mentors in the town to help the kids continue with their studies and move forward.

Scholarships are funded at \$3 per day.

His Foundation only takes donations that fill a full 4-year scholarship. However, he lets Rotary clubs commit and pay yearly. Otherwise, a full donation is required. The intent is to make sure the students don't have to worry about the money not being there the next year.

VACATION DRAWING: The winning numbers for the Vacation Drawing were picked by Mayor McLeod of Hoffman Estates, who apparently snuck into the meeting as he was not introduced as a guest.

The Grand Prize winner was David S. from a ticket sold by Holly at the HE Octoberfest

The \$250.00 runner up was Phyllis B. from a ticket sold by Eileen

The \$100.00 runner up was Fiona W. from a ticket sold by Eileen

CLASSIC: Vacation raffle is done, but guess what Classic is coming? That is correct the Classic, and tickets will be out soon. The Classic will be March 12, 2022, at Marriot Schaumburg located on 50 N. Martingale.

ADJOURNED: 1:33

The Hope Foundation Flyer follows on the next page.



Weiss Scholarship Foundation



Scan QR Code to Donate

Weiss Scholarship Foundation – Let us no longer accept a world where more than half the children get little to no education!! The environment the children we serve come from:

- No electricity of plumbing and most days only one meal
- Average family income less than \$2/Day
- Only two sets of clothing; a school uniform and something that arrived in a box from a charity
- Few have both parents alive and there is little to no medical care
- Most quit school around 4th grade because their parents cannot afford to pay for their education
- Very limited supply of books, pens, pencils, paper, etc.
- Most people live & die without seeing a doctor. Few live past 40 in part because of AIDS.

Our growth

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total # of scholarships awarded.</u>
2017	32
2018	42
2019	54
2020	79
2021	101

Also:

- Doubled the # of children completing primary school & now almost as many girls as boys.
- The gap on test scores between girls and boys has decreased from 20 to 3%
- Scores on the exam taken at the end of primary school have gone up by 40% since we began.

There is now real **"HOPE"** that life for the children in Dago can be better. You can help by:

Donate/Sponsor go on-line: www.weiss scholarship foundation.org; Click: GIVE: Pay Pal; Credit or Check. To Donate by check: Mail check to "Weiss Scholarship foundation.org"; 415 W. Jackson, Naperville, IL 60540; Cash App: \$weissf Venmo: @weissf Bitcoin also accepted; Asante Sana

We would appreciate a donation from your club and/or any of the members. Donations can be for any amount. If you want to sponsor a child on your own for all 4 years of high school, that is \$3,500

Brett Weiss- Email: brett@weiss scholarship foundation.org Mobile: 630-248-5405

**Please help us make the world a better place, one child at a time! #empoweringchildren
We can do this, together!**

Weiss Scholarship Foundation is a 501(c) 3 non-profit. EIN 82-2875554 Donations may be tax deductible.