

“The Mirror”

CHARLOTTE ROTARY CLUB – 11/24/2021

GREETER: In the absence of an official greeter, we all greeted ourselves with great skill. At the appointed time, President Jerry opened the meeting with an intense swing of the hammer on the bell.

INVOCATION: In the absence of Wally Miars, President Jerry gave our invocation using the Catholic meal prayer.

SINGING: Madora Graffeo, daughter of Mary June Garn and former Charlotte Jr. Rotarian, led us in singing. First, we sang “Over the River and Through the Woods”. Next, we sang “This Lands is Your Land”

VISITING ROTARIANS: Al Hirt attended via Zoom.

GUESTS: Our guests from the agricultural community outnumbered the members in attendance. Lee Wheaton did a great job rounding them up. The names are listed below.

JR. ROTARIANS: Our November Jr Rotarians are Kennedy Hike and Gabe Wertz.



Kennedy is the daughter of Shawnda and Chris Hike. She’s a member of the National Honors Society. She’s earned the Charlotte band’s Director Award, My Lead Ambassador, Teacher’s Award, and Oriole Award. She’s a member of both the Symphony and Marching Bands. She’s in student council, Relay for Life, Girls’ Varsity Basketball Manager, and Charlotte Student Section Leader for Flight Club. She’s volunteered for Fast Fitty Bike Race, Charlotte Band’s Apple Pies, Veterans Supply Drive, Pen Pal with elementary students, and card making for veterans. Kennedy plans to attend either MSU or Grand Valley to become either a Special Education Teacher or Forensic Scientist. Welcome Kennedy!

Gabe is the son of Beth and Todd Wertz. He’s a member of the National Honors Society. He was named “Junior Business Student of the Year”, received the Optimist Award, and was 4X Academic All-Conference. He’s a member of the Varsity Football and Track and Field teams. He participates in Business Professionals of America and My Lead. He volunteers as a ref for flag football, Christmas Kiddies, St Vincent Foodbank, and helped with the Alive Garden. He plans to study Mechanical or Aerospace Engineering at Michigan Tech. Welcome Gabe!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The “Fall into Five Grand” party on the 20th was a great success. The Dueling Pianos: Felix & The fingers, were very entertaining. The big winners were Mike Bruce – first place, Mandy Reed – second place and Mandy Stewart – third place.

- Doug Buck introduced our outbound exchange student. Genevieve Rudy accompanied by her mother: Heather Rudy. Genevieve does not know where she will be placed. She should learn that towards the end of January.

50 / 50: John Newland sold us our tickets. The lucky number was 2219676. Dave Votta had the lucky ticket.

SGT-AT-ARMS: Keisha Alexis-Davee Howe carried the barrel. President Jerry paid an additional \$1 fine because he left all his belongings at the “Fall into Five Grand” party. So, Keisha had to carry those around in her car and ended up in her house. Mike Friar paid a \$1 for not singing. Max Baxter paid a \$1 since he had not invited anyone to Rotary this year. Doug Buck skinned through paying a fine as he was able to tell something about himself no one knew. That is, he feels younger than he really is. Dave Votta paid a \$1 in spite of the fact he did tell us something about himself that we did not know. Mike Crowner paid a \$1 for his winnings at the “Fall into Five Grand” party.

PROGRAM: Lee Wheaton introduced the program. He had each one in attendance stand and introduce themselves. This included the members plus the people from the agricultural community.

The guests were:

Pat Tirrell - farmer

Keith Tirrell - farmer

Don Tirrell - farmer

Luann Stachnik - Library Director at Pottersville Benton Township District Library

Jim Orr and Dennis Orr - Farmers

Nick Thompson – Agricultural teacher at the High School and FFA leader

Fred and Judy Good - farmers

Dennis and Leaha Good – consulting Forester

Aggie Lewis – farmer

Henry Miller - farmer

Lee introduced Doyle Dingman and his wife Renee. The Dingman family has been raising show animals, especially horses and lambs. The program focused on the “Belle View Percherons” raised and shown by the Dingman Family from Bellevue. Doyle emphasized this is a family affair. The entire family is involved.



In 1986 they purchased their first 17-year-old Percheron horse for \$610. Today these horses can sell for up to a 6-digit figure. This horse birthed a foal every year until she passed at the age of 23. The Percheron will weigh up to 2,000 pounds and 18 hands (4” per hand = 6’) tall.

They started showing these horses extensively 8 to 10 years ago. When he says extensively, he meant they drove as much as 10,000 miles a year showing horses.

They do freeze semen for future breeding. Also, they have sold some these horses throughout this country. In addition, they have sold horses abroad including Australia and Columbia.

They earned the 2017 and 2018 North American Six House Hitch Classic Series Final Champions. Another accomplishment was winning the 2018 World Percheron Congress Champion Mare Six Horse Hitch. Thank you Dingman family for a fun program!

The link below is the recording of the program:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/Znf_iZQ3YoZouDxQNXIA4mpU8oZN2iW1wl52FJYAnFNXxcwjUonRI6-w_TaulLe3.8zP4CQ_zRAVP2dwB

Happy digging,

The Excavator



Next Wednesday, December 1st, 2021- Chuck Archer will introduce the GFWC Choir, a yearly favorite among Rotarians!

Presidential Tally:

Jerry --	15 Meetings
Tyler --	2 Meetings
Ed --	1 Meeting
Mandy --	0 Meetings

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITIES NOV/DEC:

Nov 02 - Community Pride – Mandy Stewart
Nov 09 – Centennial – Ed Foster
Nov 16 – NO MEETING DUE TO NOV 20th EVENT
Nov 20- Annual Fundraiser – Tyler Pray
Nov 24 – Rural Urban – Lee Wheaton
Dec 01 – Music – Chuck Archer – GFWC Choir
Dec 08 – Historical/remembrance – Joe Pray
Dec 15 – Read to Me – John Newland
Dec 22 – Grants Committee – Sam Davis
Dec 29 – Jr. Rotarian Reunion

DECEMBER DUTIES

ATTENDANCE	LEE WHEATON
GREETER	Mari Calton
INVOCATION	Bruce Schoup
MIRROR	Gregg Guetschow
ARTS & CULTURE	Michael Armitage
SGT-AT-ARMS	Keisha Howe (Barrel)
	Amy Gilson (50/50)
	John Newland (S & T)