

Rotary Meeting, January 7, 2019, Editarian Amy Remmert

The meeting was called to order by President Jeannie Brandenberger. The invocation was delivered by Dan Hartlieb encouraging us to stretch to do more. D Terry Williams delivered the art news.

Guest: Mary Zoeller (Duane Powell) Denise (Todd Bannon), Deb Harris (Brian), Dist Gov Jim Cupper (Tom Stobee), Jeannie Brandenberger (Kathy Coates) .

Songs: Tim Kilmartin and John Dillworth were our song leaders. Because of the program, a suggestion by John was something by Phish - "Down with Disease" but then he really meant that we sing the "Fishin Hole" song which was theme of the Andy Griffin Show.

There was no sponsor today but this month is categorized as vocational month and a good time to talk about your business and the opportunity talk about vocations in your industry. Please contact Bonnie Sexton at bsexton@mrcindustries.org if you are interested in a sponsorship. Bonnie is stepping to help while Christina Dorett is out of the country for a few months.

New Member: Kevin Janssen sponsored Brian Mick. Brian is a Hackett grad and works at Old National Bank. He married a friend who attended St. Monica and she was the daughter of his grade school teacher. That means he got away with lots or so he thought. He has a great job at Old National. He came back to Michigan after a number of years away working for various banks - but his wife said it's time to go home and be closer to family.

501: Dan Sytsma announced that it's been a while since we had a 501 so "Stamped Robin" a new business, will be our location because we had so many requests for a location that served more wine. So 5:01 on Tuesday January 22nd at Stamped Robin located on Portage St., almost across from Olde Peninsula and next door to the parking ramp.

Happy Bucks: Kathy Coats announced a VIP open house of North Woods Village a new memory care facility on Stadium in Oshtemo, January 23rd from 4-7. Reservations are requested by Kathy at 269-397-2200. Parking at Rykse's where a shuttle will take you to the facility. Mary Zoeller invited businesses to attend Business Connect Expo at Fetzer on January 15th from 1-5 p. Deb Harris - hoping that we have a year of Happy New Years. Kevin Janssen grateful that one of his kids graduate to next level of Day Care. David Lucio announced that his mentee through Strive has the highest GPA of the Strive student program. David is helping him write his resume so he can apply to no less than three universities including.

Speaker: Our speaker Kevin VanDam from Kalamazoo and champion fisherman was introduced by David Lucio. Kevin had a passion for fishing from the time he was a kid. He would fish anywhere people would let him. The first time he competed, he fished at Pine Lake and his older brother footed the bill for the tournament. He won \$300. It's a physical and intense activity and could take up to 8 hours per day of competition. For all national competitions, he had to do the research on the location and could not get any help from anyone. He couldn't even talk to local people to get the scoop on the lakes and conditions. He had to do all the research by himself. You need to know your lake and the conditions to be successful.

Humbled by his first competition season, but he won enough so that he could fund the whole competition season. Kevin continues to be very competitive and loves to figure out how to find

the best catch. He's not doing it for the money and Bass Pro Shops are his best sponsor. Fished with both President Bush's.

Interestingly, he stopped college to help with his families business located in Kalamazoo - "Bass Pro Shop". He has worked hard to keep the business successful and also gets satisfaction out of helping others learn how to fish.