

Rotary News June 17, 2019

President Jeannie Brandenberger called the meeting to order, and we sang the National Anthem. Rotarian Steve Charnley gave the invocation. The Arts News was given by D. Terry Williams, noting the events coming up this week in Kalamazoo.

Visiting Rotarians: Nancy Wenke, from the Gull Lake Club.

Guests: Nancy Peterson introduced Ian Shafer of Nexus Solutions; Lawrence Wenke, Denise Miller, exec. director of Out Front; Anne Witherspoon, Alison Nuismer, exec. director of Friends of Recreation; Jim McIntyre, Fenner Brown, former Rotaracter and Rotarian; and Pam Kingery, James Devers, new exec. Director of Communities in Schools.

PDG Jim Cupper and Deb Harris announced they had a few copies of Keith Mumma's photography book at the back of the room. They are for sale for \$60, with proceeds going to District water sanitation projects.

Board Notes:

President Jeannie reminded us that board minutes are now on the secure section of our website, but noted a few highlights from last week's board meeting:

- An official charter has been signed for the new Interact Club at Loy Norrix High School.
- Larry Deniston is the new board member, to complete the remainder of the late Dan Schut's term.
- She thanked Mike Barcelona and Karl Sandelin for their work on the mentorship program for new members, and announced that we need about 12 new mentors for next year.
- Save Sept. 7 date for the first "ODDLYMPICS."

Happy Bucks:

Rick Briscoe for 70th birthday, 50th wedding anniversary, and whole family together for Memorial Day.
Amy Remmert for Satellite Club collecting \$65 in happy bucks—with a fraction of the members we have!
Tom Stobie for the International Youth Exchange program.
Deb Harris thanking Tom Stobie for taking over as our International Youth Exchange Committee chair.
Dominic Gualtieri for Fathers' Day with his family.
Henry Holland for summer jobs and successes for his sons.
Jim Cupper for meeting the challenge of \$65 in Happy Bucks.
Bill Rose for the new MSU president.

Program:

Heather Isch introduced our 6th District Representative, Congressman Fred Upton. He shared that he is a vice chair of the Problem Solvers Caucus in the House. They are a bipartisan group that meets weekly to discuss bills and address issues. No press allowed, and because they were dissatisfied with gridlock they demanded rules change—ultimately being successful by refusing to support party leaders without those changes.

They were also successful in introducing a bill to end government shutdown, and are now working on immigration issues. He shared some stories about *Dreamers* here in Michigan whose futures are at risk.

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He stated they are trying now to pass pieces of immigration legislation, rather than one comprehensive bill that would ultimately not pass.

Tariffs were another issue the Congressman mentioned, and the impact they will have on some Michigan companies. Also some Michigan companies that are making large investments in Michigan now because of corporate tax reform.

Next week's program, June 24: "Title Boxing" with Scott Underwood.

Special program July 1: Captain Bjorn Rydbeck, *Swedish Armed Forces and the Security Situation Around the Baltic Sea Area.*

Submitted by Judy Moore