

# Rotary Club of Portage Bulletin

## Porta-Rota-Call

Date: August 7, 2019

by: Christy Klien

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by President Tom Welsh.

President Tom led us in the Four-Way Test,

Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Chaplain Dave Jewell gave our invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Greeter Jeannine Willacker welcomed Rotarians and guests, including Ed Watson, Jacob Maxson, and Chris Townsend.

PROGRAM: W. K. Kellogg Manor House – Volunteer Mary Jasik

Mary Jasik is a longtime volunteer with the W. K. Kellogg Manor House, professionally she was a children's librarian in Richland. Mary shared that she is a docent and gives tours of the Manor House. She also give presentations out in the community as part of her volunteer service.

Mary's presentation included the history and current offerings of the W. K. Kellogg Manor House and the W.K. Kellogg Biological Station. W. K. Kellogg built the manor when he was in his 60s for his summer cottage. He had the cottage solidly built with steel and concrete after having experienced a loss of a building due to a fire in the early 1900s. The Kellogg Manor House was built in 1925. The Kellogg family only stayed at the Manor House for fifteen summers. The house was used by the Coast Guard and then the Army until 1950. Upon W. K.'s death in 1951, the house was donated to Michigan State College, now Michigan State University. MSU used the house as a girl's dormitory and offices through the years. In 2000, the Manor House was completely renovated and restored. Visitors can take tours of the estate. The Manor House can also be rented for special occasions. W. K. Kellogg also purchased land near the Manor House and is now the Kellogg Biological Station, Kellogg Bird Sanctuary, W.K. Kellogg Experimental Forest, and the robotic dairy farm.

Mary masterfully told the story of the rocky relationship of Will Keith Kellogg and his older brother Dr. John Harvey Kellogg. Growing up John would bully and tease Will. John Harvey created the Sanitarium (“San”) that was a resort and spa to help people find the cure. W.K. worked for his brother for many years. The brothers wanted to create a non-meat breakfast for the San. They created a wheat flake meal. Eventually, at the age of 46, W. K. separated from his brother to start his own business, W. K. Kellogg Company. The brothers battled in court for many years over naming the company Kellogg.

Mary recommended the Howard Markel’s book, *The Kelloggs: The Battling Brothers of Battle Creek*.

The W.K. Kellogg Manor House is giving free tours and a lakeside concert on Sunday, August 18. The tours begin at noon and the Cereal City Concert Band will perform at 3 PM. The event is a tribute to the WWII Years.



PRESENTATION: Bob McGraw was awarded his Paul Harris.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Club Treasurer Dan Melnik shared that we had experienced an issue where someone stole a Rotary Club of Portage check from a club member’s mailbox and manipulated the check, cashed it and did additional transactions with our account. Dan discovered the issue when he was doing his routine bank reconciliation. Our bank, Horizon, acted fast and has replaced the stolen money. The bank account has been closed and a new account has been created. Dan has been working with the police. Dan encouraged everyone to make sure they reconcile their bank accounts at least monthly. Thank you Dan for handling the issue!
- If you have any potential fund raising ideas please contact AJ Srmek.
- We are looking for a volunteer to chair the Adopt a Park program. Please talk with President Tom if you are interested.
- Secretary Josh announces Erica McCulley and Jacob Maxson potential new members

- Bonnie Granado provided an update on the golf outing.  
Date: Monday, August 12, 2019  
Time: 10:30-11:00 AM Lunch, 11:30 AM Tee Off  
Location: **Indian Run Golf Course**  
Needs: Additional door prizes and golf balls

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & LATE COMERS: We celebrated the birthdays of Allan Reiff and Mark Bielang. We also celebrated the anniversaries of Jen Maynard and Dan Melnik.

HAPPY BUCKS were collected from D. Hewitt, B. McGraw, B. Crown, J. Willacker, T. Welsh, B. Kaufman, B. Ongley.

Sergeant Bill Kaufman did a Portage Rotary Golf Outing Trivia contest. Tables with incorrect answers were fined. Also, anyone who is not playing or volunteering with the outing was fined \$1.

50/50: Matt Semelbauer was the winner of \$ 14.00.

ACE OF SPADES: Mary Lou Wright drew from a deck of 39 cards for the chance to win the pot of \$171.50. Luck was not on her side today.

Next week's program features Ellen Brown and Andra Zommers with the Catholic Schools of Greater Kalamazoo, "A different look at education, the value of a Catholic school education" and we will also have a Scouting presentation.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m. by President Tom Welsh.

[Facebook link](#)

The Portage Rotary Club provides financial support for youth education, families in need and other local charitable causes. We are part of Rotary International. A service organization of business and professional leaders that provide humanitarian services and help build goodwill and peace in the world