

Rotary Club of Portage Bulletin

Porta-Rota-Call

8/14/19

by Paul Ballard

Past-President Chris Buckley called the Meeting to order at 12:00 noon.

We Sang God Bless America, recited the Pledge, and Dick Hewitt led us in the Scouts prayer.

We also recited the Rotary 4-way Test. Greeter Jeannine Willacker welcomed Guest Jacob Maxson and Visiting Rotarian Dominic Gualtieri.

PROGRAM: Emily Turner introduced our speaker, Ellen Brown, board member of the Catholic Schools of Greater Kalamazoo. Andra Zoomers, principal at St Augustine Cathedral School was also at the meeting. There are 21 Catholic schools in the Diocese that encompasses Southwestern Michigan and 3 of these are in Kalamazoo. St Augustine was founded in 1872 and has a K-8 program. Monsignor Hackett High School originally was a male only school but began accepting females in 1972. St Monica grade school was opened in 1958. All schools are fully accredited and offer a full curriculum and some college credit classes in conjunction with Aquinas College in Grand Rapids. Hackett High School has an excellent record with 48 of 49 graduates going on to college and one entering the military. All seniors participate in capstone projects with the winner receiving \$5,000 scholarship.

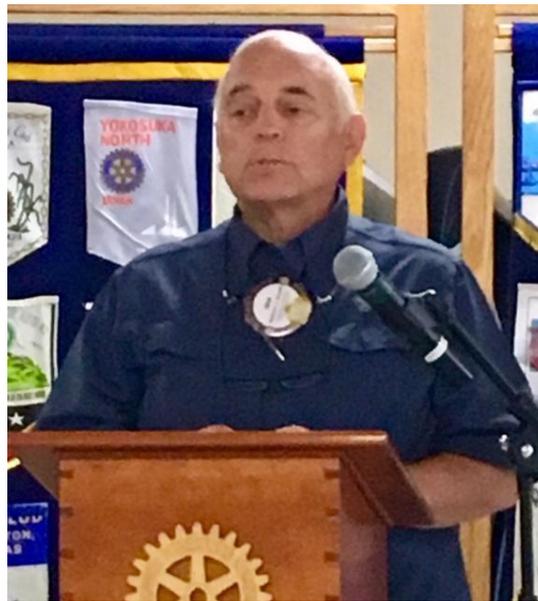
The Kalamazoo Promise did affect their enrollment but not in a drastic fashion. Separation of church and state provides the ability to have parochial schools based on any faith but they do not receive direct taxpayer funding. Tuition covers just two-thirds of the operating costs. Support from 8 local parishes, endowments and annual fund-raisers provide the rest. Catholic schools provide an excellent education and also reinforce morals and family values.

Visit CSGK.ORG for more on Catholic Schools.



PRESENTATIONS: Randy Orwig presented a medal to Dick Hewitt for a donation to Boy Scouts naming him a "James E West Fellow". West was the first president of the Boy Scouts, serving as president for 32 years. Dick is also a Scouting Ambassador for the organization.

For more info on West Fellows, contact Dominic Gualtieri, dominic.gualtieri@scouting.org.



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- AJ Srmek reported on additional fund-raising opportunities involving Miller Auditorium in November and March.
- Dick Hewitt reported that the Celery Flats was vandalized last night.
- Bonnie Granado still has a couple of Golf Outing items that could be had for a donation.
- Jeannine Willacker circulated a sign-up sheet for the August 22nd Rotary Blood Drive.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES: We were going to skip these this week but Bob Borsos, who paid a buck for being late, also presented a check for his birthday and 45th wedding anniversary. Congratulations Bob & Sandy!

HAPPY BUCKS: Happy bucks were given by Bill K (\$20), Matt S, Bob B, Jeannine W, Guest Dominic G, Emily T, Mary H, Dave M, Paul C, Chris B and Chad S, for son Nevin.

Chad Schuring won the 50/50 but Bill Crown did not find the correct ace. The pot grows.

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM will be Greta Faworski, Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 pm.

[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

Notice: An Application for Membership in the Portage Rotary Club has been submitted by **Erica McCulley**. She is a returning member of the Portage Rotary Club and classification would be Budget Analyst (01-04). Any member wishing to comment on this Application should do so in writing, either by mail addressed to the Secretary at P O Box 55, Portage, MI 49081; email addressed to the Secretary at josh@skillquestintl.com (Josh Goodlock); or by hand delivering it to the Secretary. The comment period will close seven days after the second publication of this Notice.

Notice: An Application for Membership in the Portage Rotary Club has been submitted by **Ted Watson**. He is transferring from the Traverse City Rotary Club and his classification would be Chemical Engineer (04-05). Any member wishing to comment on this Application should do so in writing, either by mail addressed to the Secretary at P O Box 55, Portage, MI 49081; email addressed to the Secretary at josh@skillquestintl.com (Josh Goodlock); or by hand delivering it to the Secretary. The comment period will close seven days after the second publication of this Notice.

Notice: An Application for Membership in the Portage Rotary Club has been submitted by **Jacob Maxson**. He is sponsored by Randy Orwig and his classification would be Non-Profit Executive. Any member wishing to comment on this Application should do so in writing, either by mail addressed to the Secretary at P O Box 55, Portage, MI 49081; email addressed to the Secretary at josh@skillquestintl.com (Josh Goodlock); or by hand delivering it to the Secretary. The comment period will close seven days after the second publication of this Notice.