

Rotary Club of Portage Bulletin

Porta-Rota-Call

August 28, 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?

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chaplain Betty Lee Ongley gave our invocation.

Greeter Jeannine Willacker welcomed everyone to the meeting today. We had no guests.

PROGRAM: Big Brothers Big Sisters – Kathy Praedel, Partnership Manager

Kathy shared information about the services that Big Brothers Big Sisters provide to youth. They provide an additional role model/mentor in a child's life. The traditional model is having a big brother with little brother, or a big sister with a little sister. They also have big couples and big families. Everyone is matched with a child with similar interests. Mentors are asked to commit to two hours twice a month and to make a commitment with the child for one year. Kathy shared a story about Bob and his little brother Steven who reconnected years later. What Steven remembered most from his time with his big brother was the little things they did together, like going to the hardware store to buy Bob a hammer.

Mentors are needed to share little moments with children ages 6 to 16 years old. All mentors receive training and go through an application process and background check before they are paired with a child. They also have an enrollment and interview process for youth and their family to make sure that everyone is committed to the program. Visit their website, <http://www.bbbsmi.org/>, to get involved or learn more about the organization.



PRESENTATION: We welcomed three new members today!

Ted Watson, Rotarian transfer, he and his wife moved to Portage to be near his children and grandchildren. Jacob Maxson, a past Rotarian with Albion, he moved to Portage area for his position with the Boy Scouts of America.

Erica McCulley, a past Portage Rotarian who is returning to the Club!

Jen Maynard received her Paul Harris +2.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Peacock Strut sign-ups is going around the room and will be back again
- Jeannine Willacker shared an update from the last blood drive, 43 units of blood were given. Next one will be in October and volunteers are needed.
- Podium Board meeting after the meeting today.

LATE COMERS: John Crandle and Paul Carlson were sung to for being late.

HAPPY BUCKS were collected from B. Borsos, J. Crandle, P. Carlson, B. Ongley, K. Foster, B. Kaufman, J. Willacker, B. Crown, T. Watson, D. Story, G. Meyers, J. Yantis, C. Buckley, M. Bielang, J. Santamaria, B. Barber, and S. McGraw.

Sergeant Chad Schuring did a Labor Day Quiz. A pin check was done at the door today.

50/50: Roy Dangel was the winner of \$14.00.

ACE OF SPADES: Chris Buckley drew from a deck of 36 cards for the chance to win the pot of \$205.50. Luck was not on his side today.

Next week's program features **Mann & Hummel** - Mentorship program with area community schools

Meeting adjourned at 12:49 p.m. by President Tom Welsh.

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.

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