

Saturday, February 17, 2024



**Events**

February 23rd  
**Plymouth Weekly Club Meeting**

**Club Leaders**



Chris Porman  
President



James Gietzen  
President-Elect



Candice Towers  
Secretary



James Van Horn III  
Treasurer



Charles J. Bares  
Rotary Foundation Chair



June Kirchgatter  
Membership Chair



Penny Joy  
iPast President



Marie A. Morrow  
Club Executive Secretary

**Broadcaster February 16, 2024**

By William Weber on Saturday, February 17, 2024



**Call to Order** President, **Chris Porman**, called the meeting to order at precisely 12:07pm. Chris led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Paul Sincock** gave the meditation and as usual asked that we take a moment in peace and meditation and urged us to make an impact on both our local and global communities. He also implored us to expand our image and to be bold in our thinking as we create new programs. In

closing, Paul recited an old Apache saying meant to bring us into harmony as “we walk the good road together.”

**Guests**

- Deborah Willett (Dave Willett’s daughter)**
- Ashley Willett (Dave Willett’s granddaughter)**
- Rachelle Vartanian (Today’s speaker)**

A somewhat “off key” version of “Hello” welcomed the guests.

**February Birthdays**

- **Robin Hyde**
- **Barry Simescu**
- **Kurt Heise**
- **Josh Mrozowski**
- **Danny Hyman**
- **Jon Solace**
- **Penny Joy**
- **Paul Sincock**
- **Christina Vega**
- **James Gietzen**
- **Tom Adams**
- **Rich Eisiminger**

**Special Announcements and Upcoming Events**

**February 23** - Chris announced that our club will once again be hosting the “The Sun Never Sets on Rotary” meeting at noon on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please make every effort to attend the meeting on that day. Please plan on getting there a few minutes early so we can be all set up for the noon hookup.

**March 9** – This is **Rotary Night at the Museum**. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending.

**April 10** – Rotary BBQ Presentation at the Museum

**April 27** – District Assembly at St. Clair College (Windsor)

**May 3-5** – District Conference in Grand Rapids. The Board will pay \$250

They will be District conferences in Grand Rapids. The Board will pay 75% towards conference cost to the first 10 attendees.

**May 20** – Golf Outing. This is a major club fund raiser so we need all hands on deck to be successful... This includes volunteering, being a sponsor, contacting potential sponsors and of course signing up to golf if you're so inclined.

**4<sup>th</sup> of July** – Rotary is planning to co-sponsor the Plymouth 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade with the Kiwanis. Chris is looking for volunteers to help. There are many opportunities. If you are interested, contact him. Chris noted that there have been no volunteers so far.

### **Program – Living and Learning**

**Carol Souchock** introduced today's speaker **Rachelle Vartanian**, President and founder of Living and Learning Enrichment Center. **Rachelle**, the mother of an autistic child, chronicled her pathway to founding and leading the work at the Living and Learning Enrichment Center which is located in Northville. Rachelle was a Special Education teacher in the Farmington Public Schools for 20 years and left her position to found the center. Rachelle spoke about the autism spectrum and how children presenting autistic symptoms are frequently overlooked or misdiagnosed. Rachelle explained how there many strategies available to work with autistic children with very favorable results both short term and long term. Rachelle said that their mission is to support teens and adults with autism and/or related challenges reach their full potential in work relationships and in the community. There are a multitude of programs available to the clients they serve, including Art Therapy, Music Therapy, Applied Behavior Analysis, Social Skills Groups, Special Interest groups, Summer camps and the list goes on. This was a very moving program and captured the very essence of "Service Above Self"

Rachelle can be reached at [rvartanian@livingandlearningcenter.org](mailto:rvartanian@livingandlearningcenter.org)

**50/50** Today's raffle worth \$44 was won by **Mike Muma**.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Chance** – **Terry Durkin** was not in attendance and missed out on \$80. Next week's put will be \$100.

**Four Way Test** – **President Chris** led us in the recitation of the 4 Way Test.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05

## **Broadcaster February 9, 2024**

By Arthur W. Gulick on Sunday, February 11, 2024

OPENING: President **Chris Porman** led us in the Pledge to the Flag. **Paul Sincock's** Meditation touched on our appreciation for our local schools and for Rotary International's support for peace studies. Paul closed with **Plymouth Rotarian E. J. McClendon's** Choctaw prayer encouraging us all to "walk the good path."



GUESTS:

- **Dave Willett** brought two people: proposed member **Jim Hockenberry** and **Deborah Willett**, Dave's daughter.
- James Giezen brought **Ron Calhoun** and son **Dill Calhoun**, who are now offering nutrition drinks at the new PS Nutrition Café, located at 273 Main Street.
- **Monica Merritt** brought her school administration coworker **Frank Ruggirello**.

COMING EVENTS:

- Fourth of July Parade. We're partnering with Kiwanis on this and will meet for planning on Monday 2/19/24 at 5:30 pm, meeting at

will meet for planning on Monday, 2/19/24 at 5:30 pm upstairs at City Hall.

- “The Sun Never Sets on Rotary”: We participated in this 24-hour-long webcast last year. This year our club represents the whole US and Canada, so we all need to be present a bit before noon on Friday 2/23/2024 here at the Cultural Center. Our part in this program is only one hour long.
- We celebrate our Rotary exhibit at the Plymouth Historical Museum 6:00-8:00 pm Saturday, 3/9/2024. Signup for this celebration is underway.
- The Plymouth Chamber of Commerce Business Awards are held Thursday, 3/14/2024. Our club will get a special recognition award.
- There’s a new book rollout at the Plymouth Historical Museum at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, 4/10/2024. This features **Ellen Elliott and Liz Kersten’s** new book *Plymouth Rotary Club Chicken Barbeque*.
- District 6400 Conference is in Grand Rapids this year, 5/3-5/2024. Remember, this is the year our own **Russ Jones is District Governor**. Special financial incentives are available to encourage attendance.
- Our club’s Golf Outing will be held 5/24/2024 at Fox Hills. Please consider contributing as a sponsor. Go to [www.eventregisterpro.com/event](http://www.eventregisterpro.com/event).

YOUTH EXCHANGE COMMITTEE: We’re committed as a host club next year, so we have started to look for host families. Contact **President Chris** or committee chair **Denise King**.

#### CLUB BOARD OFFICIAL STUFF:

- The Club Board has approved funding and will forward requests to our Plymouth Rotary Foundation to support the Miracle League baseball field and PCEP’s 88.1 WSDP radio station.
- Work has begun on the Gala to be held in July.
- Rotary Park improvements are being discussed.
- Improvements to The Gathering are being explored--things like removable doors for better winter use--accomplished along with community partners.

SPEAKER: Plymouth-Canton Community Schools’s **Frank Ruggirello** emceed the introduction of Plymouth Rotarian **Monica Merritt**, who has headed the District as Superintendent for several years now. **Monica** reminded us that a school millage renewal will appear on our February 27 primary ballot.

The proposal is for 18 mils and continues the current tax that has been levied on local non-homestead property (like commercial and rental property). This funding is important to the School District and amounts to some \$33.5 M annually. If you want, click the Learn More button at the [www.pccsk12.com](http://www.pccsk12.com) website.

**Paul Sincock** reminded us that you need to participate in the election to vote on this millage, and if you don’t care to vote for a Democrat or Republican primary candidate, you can ask for an “Independent” ballot.

FIFTY-FIFTY: **Sandy Mily** won \$59. Too bad for the absent **Danny Hyman**, who could have won the \$89 Second Chance money.

FOUR WAY TEST: President Chris had us all stand up and recite our non-sectarian ethics code.

NEW MEMBER PROPOSALS: **June Kirchgatter**, chair of the Membership Committee, announces the proposal of:

- **James Hockenberry**
- **Matthew Wilson (corporate membership)**
- **Vikki Plagens.**

Objections, if any, should be promptly communicated to the club President.  
Induction on 3/8/2024 is anticipated.

**Lunch ordering- Advance sign up is IMPORTANT!**

**Respond** to the weekly email or Email [Marie.morrow@pcuw.org](mailto:Marie.morrow@pcuw.org) or Call Marie - 734- 453-6879 X 4

Salad options available:

Maurice Salad

Cesar with or without chicken

Greek with or without chicken

Spinach with or without chicken

Mediterranean