



Tuesday, July 1, 2025

**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

Rotary

Events

No Events found

Club Leaders



Candice Towers
President



Preston Gee
President-Elect



Nancy Ann Baldwin
Rotary
Foundation
Chair



James Gietzen
iPast President



Marie A. Morrow
Club Executive
Secretary

Broadcaster June 27, 2025

By Timothy E. Joy on Friday, June 27, 2025



President James called his final meeting to order! He's excited about that!

He led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance to start the meeting. Then he introduced **June Kirchgatter** with today's meditation. June's thoughts were about leaders and leadership. She offered quotes from General George Patton, Teddy Roosevelt, Sam Walton and Bill Gates. Bills words are "As we look ahead to the next century, leaders will be those that empower others".

President James took the mic and toured the room introducing guests.

Brad Towers, husband of Candice. **Kasey Kohn** introduced her husband and son, Steve and Alex. Alex celebrated being 8 months old today. **Gail Grieger** introduced Wes Graff, head of Plymouth's Chamber of Commerce. **Joyce Johnson** introduced her guest, Ken Lago. Allen Samaha introduced himself. Welcome back Allen! President James let the club in another, rather interesting attempt at, "Hello, hello...."

President James reminded everyone to sign up for lunch! He then invited the guests to lead us to lunch.

Birthdays were recognized by **President James**. Susan Spelker, June 22nd. Chris Breest, June 28th. Happy Birthday was sung...

Parade marshals are needed Friday July 4th. Help out if you are in town!

Art in the Park parking volunteers are needed especially on Sunday July 13th. Parking funds are retained by the Club to mitigate dues increases.

President James called for a moment of silence for members we lost this year: **Dan Hordof, Wyatt Hordof, Alex Kamer, Stephanie Goeke, Norm Weast and Bob Peterson.**

President James addressed the Club with his thoughts about this past Rotary year.

We celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the Rotary Club of Plymouth! He thanked the Centennial Committee and the Gala Committee. We inducted 10 new members into our Club; that's ten new hands and ten new hearts to

provide service above self. **Preston Gee** was thanked for chairing membership. The BBQ raised almost \$50,000 which doesn't happen without commitment. **Eric Joy and the BBQ Committee** were congratulated. The Golf Outing was fun! The Plymouth Foundation was recognized for supporting all the club does. **Nancy Baldwin** chaired The Rotary Foundation Committee and the new member committee. Our Interact Club received support from **Gail Grieger and Monica Merritt** after the loss of Dan Hordof. **Kurt Heise** was thanked for the Meditation Committees efforts. **June Kirchgatter** was thanked for the Program Committees success. **World Service** was recognized for reminding us that Rotary has no boundaries.

President James spoke eloquently about his thoughts on his presidential year. This video is available on Facebook and every member should listen to his thoughts. On Facebook, search- Rotary Club of Plymouth. Do it today!

President James invited past President **Kirk Kohn** to induct our newest Club Director, **Kasey Kohn**!

Changing of the Guard! **Candice Towers** was called to the podium to be sworn in as president. She received the Presidential Pin which passes from President to President and her very own PINK gavel was presented.

President James received a phone call from Plymouth, England. Apparently, they commissioned the Royal Jeweler to craft a tiara for our club's incoming Princess! **Eric Joy** was entrusted with the jewels and carefully transported them to our meeting! **Candice** received the tiara graciously and immediately donned her new finery!

President Candice was sworn into her Presidency! Madam President then took the podium. She shared her thoughts about her new role!

Our next meeting is July 18th! It is Candice's first meeting and we have been asked to wear Rotary swag to the meeting!

The 50/50 was won by **June Kirchgatter**. Second chance winner was **Robyn Hyde** but she was elsewhere- sorry.

The meeting ended with the Four Way Test!

Editors note: THANK YOU JAMES FOR LEADING A SUCCESSFUL YEAR! WE'RE PROUD OF YOU!

Broadcaster June 20, 2025

Saturday, June 21, 2025

Call to Order:

President-Elect Candice Towers called the meeting to order.

Your Scribe led the meditation today with a baseball-themed prayer in honor of the First Place Detroit Tigers who are 9.5 games up.

Introduction of Guests & Announcements:

Guests today included prospective member **Alan Samaha**, along with **Tammy Haggerty, Mark Salloum** and **Ellen Elliott**.



- **Volunteers** are needed for the Plymouth 4th of July parade!
- **Host families** are also needed for our 2025-26 Exchange Student
- **Rotary Swag** is on the way – check back at future meetings for more information; email already went out
- **Blood Drive** is July 8 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Plymouth Cultural Center

Today's Presentations – Tammy Haggerty, Wounded Warrior Project

In addition to Tammy's Day job as owner of MJ Jewelers in Canton, she volunteers her time for the Wounded Warrior project. Her father, grandfather and brother are all combat veterans of various conflicts, and the project has raised \$1 million in Michigan alone, thanks to volunteers like Tammy. They also support veterans' caregivers and families, especially those with mental health issues. Wounded Warriors assist 3,547 veterans in Michigan, providing nearly \$3 million in financial wellness programs, benefit services and the 'Warriors to Work' program.

Tammy showed two very powerful videos about the Wounded Warrior Project and the diverse veteran community that they serve.

The Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) began in 2003 as a small, grassroots effort providing simple care and comfort items to the hospital bedsides of the first wounded service members returning home from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. As their post-service needs evolved, so have their programs and services. Today, through their direct programs in mental health, career counseling, and long-term rehabilitative care, along with their advocacy efforts, Wounded Warriors improve the lives of millions of veterans and their families.

This effort requires the passion and commitment of friends, supporters, and like-minded organizations that enable them to fulfill their mission. With their collaboration and support, Wounded Warriors strive to ensure that when those who serve come home, they're afforded every opportunity to be as successful as a civilian as they were in the military. Of course, they are always looking for individual donations and corporate sponsors. Go to www.woundedwarriorproject.org for ways to get involved.

Mark Salloum – World War 2 Documentary

In keeping with today's veteran's theme, longtime Plymouth Township resident Mark Salloum gave an update on his upcoming documentary on the many local heroes of World War 2. Mark was inspired to develop this documentary after attending Memorial Day observances in Plymouth and hearing the stories of so many vets at those events.

Mark explained how after the attack on Pearl Harbor, men of all ages answered the call and quickly enlisted. Women were also committed to the Arsenal of Democracy, building bombers in factories and providing triage in the fields. On the racial front, fearless African American men became the

unsung heroes as Tuskegee Airmen and the Montford Point Marines. Sadly, less than 50,000 WWII veterans remain alive, while losing hundreds each day. And with each loss, another part of living history is gone forever. Fortunately, the stories of 25 veterans and their family members live on.

Filmmakers Mark Salloum and Keith Famie are joining forces with their new studio, Bending River Films. This film will be one of their first projects together, as it pays tribute to the brave men and women who served our country during World War II. The film takes audiences on a journey starting from the youthful days of these veterans, whether they grew up on city streets or country farms. It follows their transition to the battlefields and communications rooms where they played crucial roles in the war effort. The narrative continues to explore the challenges and triumphs veterans faced upon returning home and adjusting to civilian life.

Through the eyes of our veterans and their children, the film portrays the profound impact of war on their lives. It captures their stories of bravery, resilience, and sacrifice, offering a deep personal glimpse into the experiences of those who served.

Beyond storytelling, the film is crafted with a strong educational component aimed at informing and inspiring future generations. Mark and Ellen Elliott explained how the documentary is already being used in the Plymouth-Canton High Schools to engage students on the faces and stories of the war, and how they can research and better understand the sacrifices they made so long ago. Remember, high school students today were not born in the 20th Century and really gravitated to this interactive learning opportunity, which included marching in the Plymouth Memorial Day Parade.

Mark showed us a compelling sneak peak at the documentary, which will make its debut at the Penn Theatre in November and will air on PBS Detroit in December.

50/50

Wrapping things up, the 50/50 was won by **Tim Joy** for \$58. **Kirk Kohn** walked home with \$100 in the Second Chance Drawing. (He wins every week!)

Until we meet again –

Lunch ordering- Advance sign up is IMPORTANT!

Respond to the weekly email or Email 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