

Wednesday, May 13, 2026



## Broadcaster May 8, 2026

By Arthur W. Gulick on Saturday, May 9, 2026

President-elect **Preston Gee** opened the meeting and led the Pledge to the Flag.

Preston called on **Mary Ann Wood** for the Meditation. Mary Ann, who's a Major at the Plymouth Salvation Army, spoke about helping people who are struggling to make ends meet. Their food pantry has been busy. She thanked Rotary for helping to support SA's summer day camp for kids. Please support the food drive led by USPS mail carriers this Saturday!

We welcomed three guests with our Hello song:

1. Canton Rotary President **Geary Huey**, introduced by **Dave Willett**.
2. **John King**, introduced by our exchange student, **Malte Thornberg**. John and Denise King were Malte's first host family.
3. **Al Blixt** introduced his son **Andrew Blixt**.

Sunscreen Donations needed!

**Michelle Hall** spoke about the fliers she brought at the request of her son **Hunter**, a prior Plymouth Rotarian who's now in medical school in Toledo. The fliers are a plea for donation of sunscreens for medically underserved Toledoans. **Hunter** is an officer of Community Cares Clinics (utcommunitycare.org). **Hunter** says that travel size and smaller containers are preferred. Michell will gather them each Friday and get them to Hunter!

*Hello Rotarians! I hope you are all doing well in the past year. Since leaving for medical school, I have become involved in my school's free Community Care Clinic. This clinic is the largest student run clinic in the country, and I also serve as one of the directors. Many of our patients are unhoused and therefore at a substantially elevated risk of developing skin cancer. I am hoping that you will help me to prevent cancer by donating sunscreen products!*

*Thank you so much!!*

*Hunter Hall (the youngest retired Rotarian from the Plymouth Club)*

Club Meetings this month:

May 15: Four-Way Test essay contest winners

May 16: Flower planting downtown

May 22: No meeting

May 29: We eat lunch at Karl's Cabin restaurant at 11:45 AM. There's a special program with Judge Ron Lowe and newspaperman Ed Wendover. We need a head count of at least 60 ahead of time to keep our date booked at the venue.

Other May Events:

May 9: Salvation Army needs volunteers. Contact Mary Ann Wood

May 14 and 15: Penn Theater events: Resurgo, Devin Scillian

May 15: Plymouth Rotary Foundation Board meeting

May 18: our club's Rotary Golf Classic. Cam Miller says we still need golfers.

Save the date:

July 10-12: Art in the Park parking fund raiser

August 8: Chicken Rack Cleaning at DPW yard

September 13: Chicken BBQ

Incoming Exchange Student

Next year's Rotary exchange student is named Max and he's from Slovakia. We need to get host families for Max, either Rotarians or non-Rotarians are welcome.

Programs

Our current exchange student, **Malte Thornberg, from Stockholm, Sweden** spoke about his experience in our community. Malte says he's grateful that he's become more confident, independent, and open-minded during the eight months he's been here so far. He feels like he's serving as an ambassador for Sweden while he's here, that he will become an ambassador for the U.S. when he returns to Europe. Malte anticipates that his experience with us will continue to have a good effect on his life for decades. Asked how often he's been playing golf here, Malte says five or six days a week. His favorite food? Stuffed peppers!

### Events

No Events found

### Club Leaders



**Candice Towers**  
President



**Preston Gee**  
President-Elect



**Kasey Kohn**  
Secretary



**Daniel Amos**  
Treasurer



**Nancy Ann Baldwin**  
Rotary Foundation Chair



**Eric M. Joy**  
Youth Exchange Chair



**James Gietzen**  
iPast President



**Marie A. Morrow**  
Club Executive Secretary



**Penny Joy** spoke about her and husband Tim's trips to Ghana, which began in January 2025. They've taken many donated items for the people there. The **Days for Girls** washable menstrual products, which allow young women to attend school without interruption, are enthusiastically received and are distributed with the life management classes that teen women need. Provision of new water wells and refurbishing of schools were part of Tim and Penny's work.



**Sandy Kline** won the Fifty-Fifty and **Mary Lu Stone** won the Second Chance.

We ended with the Four-Way Test.

## Broadcaster May1, 2026

By William Weber on Saturday, May 2, 2026



**Call to Order** - President **Candice Tower**, called the meeting to order at 12:05pm and lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Because this meeting is being held at Graye's Greenhouse we proceeded directly to the program.

### Program - Graye's Greenhouse

Today's speaker, **Kyle Keaffaber** is a Rotary member and an owner of Graye's Greenhouse. Several of us have been visiting the greenhouse for many years while for others this was their first time visiting. The changes that have been made in just a small amount of time are remarkable.

Initially, this greenhouse had very narrow aisles with dirt walkways. Kyle and the team have created an event space in the greenhouse by widening aisles and replacing a few flower beds and piping and installing bricks and pavers. This event space has since been used for Yoga, weddings, art workshops and today hosting our Rotary meeting.

Graye's greenhouse, located at the Northeast corner of Joy and Lilley consists of 6.5 acres. The original greenhouse, home and barn were built almost 100 years ago by European immigrants. The greenhouse supported the home, barn, expenses, taxes, and neighboring land for many years. As times changed with the advent of big box stores selling plants at discounted prices, changing shopping habits, taxes and the list goes on, the greenhouse, on its own, was no longer able to support the home, barn and acreage. Clearly, if the greenhouse was to survive, a different business model was required.

Enter Kyle Keaffaber and his team who were daring enough to reimagine the property and came up with a plan where the barn, surrounding property and other initiatives would support the greenhouse rather than the other way around.

Hosting numerous community meetings and submitting proposals to the Plymouth Township Board a plan was devised and tentatively accepted by the Township Board. The "new" Graye's greenhouse property will consist of the greenhouse with all of it's former charm but will also include an events venue which has already been modified as described above. Additionally, there will be a 1.5-acre park which will include opportunities for families to bring their children and at the same time enjoy the other amenities of the property.

Also existing on the property is a Michiganense Native Species business. The entrance way to the greenhouse will be moved at least 100 feet east on Joy Road to avoid the congestion on the corner of Joy and Lilley. The exiting parking area will be moved somewhat south and consist of approximately 100 spaces. The long term hope is that small businesses, such as coffee shops and the like will become part of the greenhouse site.

Kyle showed us a "passion flower" whose bloom only lasts for a day. This flower was produced by a vine that has lived in the greenhouse for over 60 years. Through the years, the greenhouse has been known for its succulent plants, cactus, and many other plants that you could never find at a big box store.

I would certainly encourage all of you to visit this greenhouse and to join in with the vision of Kyle and his family. I would also encourage you to visit the Graye's website as there are numerous before and after photos as well as links to several publications that have written about the greenhouse through the years. For those of you who have met Kyle, you will find him as a visionary at heart. Kyle is an architect by trade and has his office in the home adjoining the greenhouse.

The photo below shows the proposed finished product of the greenhouse project.



Finally, kudos to **June Kirchgatter** and her committee for putting together this off-site gathering.

#### Upcoming Meetings

**May 8** – Our Youth Exchange student, Malte, will tell us about his time in our community.

**May 15** – Four Way Test Essay Contest winners will be honored.

**May 22** – **No meeting**, Memorial Day Weekend

**May 29** – Meeting at Karl's Cabin. **Ed Wendover** and **Ron Lowe** present "How to Kill Your Local Judge" based on a recent book written by Ed.

**June 5** – Memorial Scholarship recipients will be presented.

**Guests and Birthdays** - This was a double win as no guests or birthdays were recognized, which meant no off-key - sound deaf singing.

**50/50** Today's raffle was won by **June Kirchgatter**.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Chance** – Today's 2<sup>nd</sup> chance was replaced by a drawing for a plant which was won by **Nancy Baldwin**.

**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  
Ceasar with or without chicken  
Greek with or without chicken  
Spinach with or without chicken  
Mediterranean