Monday, March 4, 2024

Events

March 8th
Plymouth Weekly
Club Meeting

March 9th
Rotary Night at the
Museum

March 15th
Plymouth Weekly
Club Meeting

March 22nd
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
Past President

Marie A. Morrow
Club Executive
Secretary
OPENING: James Gietzen, our 2024-2025 President, substituted for President Chris. James couldn’t sound our fine heavy brass bell, because it’s still on display at the Historical Museum’s Plymouth Rotary exhibit, so he jingled the meeting to order with a little “ring for assistance” bell. James led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Kurt Heise, who is the Plymouth Township Supervisor and must be glad to see an end to the season of snowy streets, delivered a Meditation that was a poem celebrating springtime.

GUESTS:

- Maria, a potential exchange student, was here with her dad, Oliver. They are from Westland and were guests of Denise King.
- Kirk Sivic, a long-time area resident, was the guest of June Kirchgatter. Kirk is a potential club member and is opening a new local office of Steri-Clean, Inc., offering clutter clean-up, crime scene cleanup and other services; see www.hoarders.com.
- Bill West was a guest of Bruce Baxter. Bill’s late uncle Earl West was a Plymouth Rotarian for many years. Bill doesn’t look that different from when he graduated from Plymouth High School with your reporter.
- Dave Stechholz, a member of Livonia AM Rotary, was the guest of PDG Traci Sincock (wife of our own PDG Paul Sincock).

COMING EVENTS: See prior Broadcasters for the stuff that’s scheduled. A new item is the upcoming Four-Way Test Committee’s essay contest for local middleschoolers. Watch for committee Chair Carol Souchok’s message requesting volunteer test graders.

YOUTH EXCHANGE: PDG Paul Sincock, who serves on the Central States Rotary Youth Exchange Committee as its Vice Chair and Country Correspondent for parts of Europe and for Africa, spoke to us about our exchange student program. Central States covers some twenty Rotary districts in the USA, sending about 120 students both inbound and outbound yearly. Paul and Traci have been the host family for many inbound students. Denise King, our club’s Youth Exchange Committee Chair, reports that we are committed to hosting an inbound student next year. We will need five host families. Denise is looking for someone to take over the Chair position for 2025-2026.

SPEAKER: Denise King introduced our current exchange student, Noa, who hails from Charneux, a town near Liège, Belgium. He’s 18 and comes from a family with a dad, mom, little sister, and a golden retriever. He’s experiencing a year as a student at PCEP and plans to study business when he returns home.

FIFTY-FIFTY: Al Blixt won $52 and Jeff Stella got the $20 Second Chance prize.

FOUR-WAY TEST: We closed by reading our Rotary ethical test.
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 â€œwe walk the good road together.â€

Guests
Deborah Willett (Dave Willettâ€™s daughter)
Ashley Willett (Dave Willettâ€™s granddaughter)
Rachelle Vartanian (Todayâ€™s speaker)
A somewhat â€œoff keyâ€ version of â€œHelloâ€ 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 â€œThe Sun Never Sets on Rotaryâ€ meeting at noon on the 23rd. 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 â€“ This is Rotary Night at the Museum. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending.
April 10 â€“ Rotary BBQ Presentation at the Museum
April 27 â€“ District Assembly at St. Clair College (Windsor)
May 3-5 â€“ District Conference in Grand Rapids. The Board will pay $250 towards conference cost to the first 10 attendees.
May 20 â€“ 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 youâ€™re so inclined.

4th of July â€“ Rotary is planning to co-sponsor the Plymouth 4th 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 â€“ Living and Learning
Carol Souchock introduced todayâ€™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...
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
Caesar with or without chicken
Greek with or without chicken
Spinach with or without chicken
Mediterranean

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

50/50 Today’s raffle worth $44 was won by Mike Muma. 2nd 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