Meeting Notes – Mar. 2, 2021

Rotarian T. R. Clark presented the weekly program on Mar. 2, 2021.  TR is a forester and spoke to us about a relatively new program.  In this program, companies who produce large amounts of carbon dioxide, as a result of the manufacturing/production process, pay landowners not to cut timber.  Trees store carbon dioxide and this arrangement helps to offset the adverse effects to the environment caused by the larger companies' production of CO2.  There are currently only a couple of companies who have created a platform for business and landowners to utilize for this arrangement.  In this platform so far the focus has been on older, more mature hardwood plantations, in which a larger amount of CO2 is already trapped.  There is a pilot program in Pennsylvania in which landowners are paid $4.00-$8.00 an acre to not cut their hardwood trees.  In Alabama, from Clay Co running northeast, forests that already trap CO2 get credit for the year the CO2 is stored.  This movement is expected to reach pine plantations in the future.

Diane Sherriff

Immediate Past President