



March 3, 2016

VP Kathy Lockhart called the meeting to order at 7:30. Vic Simonsen led the pledge and Gary Damen gave the prayer.

Kathy reported that Jenny was in Washington straightening out the Federal Government. Harry Lerch, as President-Elect, was in Orlando helping Disney and Rotary.

We received a check for \$800 from the Port Salerno Seafood Festival for our assistance. Thanks to all the volunteers who poured beverages.

BATIS

Keith announced that we have set the Golf Tourney and the Be A Tourist in Stuart drawing set for October 7th. This is our major fundraiser for the year so please join in.

Chris Shoaf announced that he will be getting last year's gift list out to everyone so we can begin collecting gifts for the winners. Plan on going back to thank last year's donors and see if they will help us again this year. Last year we netted over \$14,000 for supporting local projects. Watch your e-mails for updates on the programs. Chris promises more info next week!

RYLA

Rocky announced that we only have 1 student signed up for the Rotary Youth Leadership Conference. There is some major statewide tests for students that week and many students are required to take the tests. If you have any student contacts who would benefit from this leadership training contact Roc (rocfiore@comcast.net).

Happy & Sad Dollars

Jane Mills announced a fundraising auction at All Saint's Episcopal Church on March 12 from 3 to 7. A number of Treasure Coast artists will be exhibiting as well as an auction of antiques and gift baskets. More info and auction catalog at www.AllSaints.JensenBeach.org.

The 22nd Bookmania is set for Jensen Beach High Auditorium this Saturday, March 5. Come meet and listen to 10 published authors discuss their latest works. The event is sponsored by the Martin County Library Foundation. The program and speaker schedule is at www.LibraryFoundationMC.org.

Tom had a happy buck for his new boat sales partner in Key West. Sue had a sad dollar for their college teams not being a part of March Madness this year.

Dr. Brian reminded us about Bingo and Pizza Night on March 16th at Sand Hill Cove. Sign up sheet will be passed around next week.

Dave Shoaf had a really big birthday check for our Foundation.

Our visiting Rotarians included John Bracken and David Kennedy. Meade Rankin was back and is busy filling out his membership paperwork! Attorney Carrie Lavargna came to hear her husband speak about his Latin trip.

Ak Tenamit visit.

Larry Lavargna has chaired the International Service Committee for the last 2 years. This year he was instrumental in getting the club involved in a major project at the Ak Tenamit boarding school in remote Guatemala. The school was founded by a Rotarian from Jupiter over 20 years ago and has grown to provide a secondary education for 500 students each year.

Students are ferried to the school from throughout the area to the school where they study and learn new leadership skills to take back to their communities or vocational skills in the hospitality and tourism industries. The students operate a restaurant in nearby Livingston called Buga Mama (Mouth of the River). They also have a gift shop in the town. These businesses provide training and experience for the students.

Tuition is \$365 per year or 200 pounds of corn. Many of the students are sponsored by Rotarians here in the U.S. and Canada.

The board and staff works with a small group of foreign volunteers in education, health, income generation and cultural programs of the 26,000 members of the Q-echi Maya Community. Six Mayan Elders provide leadership and counsel to the staff.

The school also has a community rural health clinic that saw over 2,000 patients in 2015. They also established a floating Dental Clinic that served over 600 patients this past year.

Our club sent 2 hydroponic towers for growing vegetables to the school 3 years ago. Larry and 2 of the students refurbished the towers and moved them to the restaurant in Livingston where they are now operating and being maintained by the students.

This year our Rotary Club provided a \$2,000 grant towards a \$93,000 water, solar power and sanitation project for the school. We joined with 11 other clubs and individuals to raise the money. Through a new Global Grants initiative we raised \$25,000. The Rotary Districts then provided \$25,000 match and the Rotary World Funds provided almost \$40,000. The engineering and design work is being performed by Engineers without Borders.

The 10 day trip was an eye opener for Larry. He plans to look for other ways to help. If you want more information please go to www.thegtfund.org or talk to Larry.

50-50 was sold by Bob Swan and won by Michael Donnelly.

