

Sunday, February 11, 2024



Events

February 16th
[Plymouth Weekly Club Meeting](#)

February 23rd
[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](#)
iPast President



[Marie A. Morrow](#)
Club Executive Secretary

Broadcaster February 9, 2024

By Arthur W. Gulick on Sunday, February 11, 2024



OPENING: President **Chris Porman** led us in the Pledge to the Flag. **Paul Sincock**'s Meditation touched on our appreciation for our local schools and for Rotary International's support for peace studies. Paul closed with **Plymouth Rotarian E. J. McClendon**'s Choctaw prayer encouraging us all to "walk the good path."

GUESTS:

- **Dave Willett** brought two people: proposed member **Jim Hockenberry** and **Deborah Willett**, Dave's daughter.
- James Giezen brought **Ron Calhoun** and son **Dill Calhoun**, who are now offering nutrition drinks at the new PS Nutrition Café, located at 273 Main Street.
- **Monica Merritt** brought her school administration coworker **Frank Ruggirello**.

COMING EVENTS:

- Fourth of July Parade. We're partnering with Kiwanis on this and will meet for planning on Monday, 2/19/24 at 5:30 pm upstairs at City Hall.
- "The Sun Never Sets on Rotary": We participated in this 24-hour-long webcast last year. This year our club represents the whole US and Canada, so we all need to be present a bit before noon on Friday 2/23/2024 here at the Cultural Center. Our part in this program is only one hour long.
- We celebrate our Rotary exhibit at the Plymouth Historical Museum 6:00-8:00 pm Saturday, 3/9/2024. Signup for this celebration is underway.
- The Plymouth Chamber of Commerce Business Awards are held Thursday, 3/14/2024. Our club will get a special recognition award.
- There's a new book rollout at the Plymouth Historical Museum at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, 4/10/2024. This features **Ellen Elliott and Liz Kersten**'s new book *Plymouth Rotary Club Chicken Barbeque*.
- District 6400 Conference is in Grand Rapids this year, 5/3-5/2024. Remember, this is the year our own **Russ Jones is District Governor**. Special financial incentives are available to encourage attendance.
- Our club's Golf Outing will be held 5/24/2024 at Fox Hills. Please consider contributing as a sponsor. Go to www.eventregisterpro.com/event.

YOUTH EXCHANGE COMMITTEE: We're committed as a host club next year, so we have started to look for host families. Contact **President Chris** or committee chair **Denise King**.

CLUB BOARD OFFICIAL STUFF:

- The Club Board has approved funding and will forward requests to our Plymouth Rotary Foundation to support the Miracle League baseball field and PCEP's 88.1 WSDP radio station.
- Work has begun on the Gala to be held in July.
- Rotary Park improvements are being discussed.
- Improvements to The Gathering are being explored--things like removable doors for better winter use--accomplished along with community partners.

SPEAKER: Plymouth-Canton Community Schools™ **Frank Ruggirello** emceed the introduction of Plymouth Rotarian **Monica Merritt**, who has headed the District as Superintendent for several years now. **Monica** reminded us that a school millage renewal will appear on our February 27 primary ballot.

The proposal is for 18 mils and continues the current tax that has been levied on local non-homestead property (like commercial and rental property). This funding is important to the School District and amounts to some \$33.5 M annually. If you want, click the Learn More button at the www.pccsk12.com website.

Paul Sincock reminded us that you need to participate in the election to vote on this millage, and if you don't care to vote for a Democrat or Republican primary candidate, you can ask for an "Independent" ballot.

FIFTY-FIFTY: **Sandy Mily** won \$59. Too bad for the absent **Danny Hyman**, who could have won the \$89 Second Chance money.

FOUR WAY TEST: President Chris had us all stand up and recite our non-sectarian ethics code.

NEW MEMBER PROPOSALS: **June Kirchgatter**, chair of the Membership Committee, announces the proposal of:

- **James Hockenberry**
- **Matthew Wilson (corporate membership)**
- **Vikki Plagens.**

Objections, if any, should be promptly communicated to the club President. Induction on 3/8/2024 is anticipated.

Broadcaster February 2, 2024

By Albert Blixt on Tuesday, February 6, 2024



Call to Order President, **Chris Porman**, called the meeting to order at precisely 12:00 pm. Chris led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Meditation: **Chuck Lang** led the meditation. His prayer acknowledged that the dedication to service remains even amid war, floods, human mistreatment and abuse. He called for support for Rotarians around the world "to see, to love, and to follow".

Guests:

- **Deborah Willett**
- **Paul Sihon**
- **Tom Brennan**
- **Drake Filippis** â€™ new member
- **Scott Albright** â€™ new member

The rowdy table led the room in singing â€™Hello, Hello, Helloâ€™ to welcome our guests.

Chris reminded the club members to sign up for lunch in advance. Sign up is important. If you canâ€™t sign up electronically, call or email **Marie** at 734-453-6879 x4 or Marie.morrow@pcuw.org. Chris reminded members to let guests go first to lunch.

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**

New Members

Two new Plymouth Rotary members were sworn in: **Scott Albright and Drake Filippis**.

Special Announcements and Upcoming Events


February 23 - Chris announced that our club will once again be hosting the â€™The Sun Never Sets on Rotaryâ€™ meeting at noon on the 23rd. Please make every effort to attend the meeting on that day.

March 9 â€™ This is **Rotary Night at the Museum**. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending.

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€™ Doug Willett

Club member Doug Willett presented his work on the Phoenix project. Doug explained that Artificial Intelligence (AI) now makes it possible to create a digital experience of the history of Plymouth that combines data from many different sources. Doug began with researching the Phoenix block of stores in downtown Plymouth capturing 200 years of history of the various businesses that were located there over two centuries. The project incorporates Dougâ€™s business creates interactive virtual reality recreation of homes and businesses that let one â€™walk throughâ€™ homes for sale or businesses. He has applied that technology to allow a person to â€™go back in timeâ€™ and actually experience what the city looked like in the past. Doug noted that the technology is improving so quickly that this kind of virtual experience will only get better.



The 50/50 was won by **Dan Hordof**. Second chance would have been **June Kirchgatter** .

The Four Way test was recited by all. President **Chris** dismissed the meeting at 1:00pm

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