

# Rotary Club of Portage Bulletin

## Porta-Rota-Call

March 10, 2021

by Paul Ballard

President Matt Semelbauer called the meeting to order at 12:02pm. We recited the Four Way Test and the Pledge of Allegiance. Dick Hewitt gave the invocation.

PROGRAM: Randy Orwig introduced our speaker today - Dominic Gualtieri, head of the local Michigan Crossroads Council of the Boy Scouts of America. To begin, Dominic discussed the national re-organization of the Boy Scouts that returns program control to the local councils. Scouting is safer now than ever before with specific training for all leaders, criminal background checks and a “no one-on-one contact” rule for all scouting interactions. Unlike the National Organization, our local council has not filed bankruptcy. It has taken steps to remain financially sustainable. One solution to control ongoing expenses was the sale of Camp Roto-Kiwan to a community organization that will preserve its natural environment and its availability for scouting activities.

In response to the pandemic, a virtual Cub Scout Program was developed. The Council created virtual Boy Scout Camp-O-Rees that were so successful that a national model for this type of meeting was developed using the local Crossroads Council methods. The virtual merit badge program has also been extremely popular. For community service, scouts engaged in making masks for distribution and made popcorn for front-line workers. The usual Summer Camp Program was cancelled in 2020 for the first time ever in history. However, plans are underway to restart in-person activities, including Summer Camp, as allowed by government restrictions.

Dominic also explained the new roles of females in scouting. This began in 2015 when girls were allowed to attend Cub Scout meetings and directly partake in the activities of what were called “Family Packs”. In 2017, they were fully integrated into Cub Scout Packs. Young women were brought into the Boy Scouts in 2018. This year Scouting will award Eagle status to over 1,000 young women, some of whom completed the program in record-breaking time.

The three fingers of the Scout Sign represent “Duty to Self, God and Community”. One local group developed a video on the problem of bullying that was used by the schools. Three local scouts will receive Heroism Awards that will be publicly announced soon. Dominic is available at [dominic.gualtieri@scouting.org](mailto:dominic.gualtieri@scouting.org) for additional or specific questions.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Virtual Auction Update – Share our event page, send invites of our event to your friends, call/email 10 friends/family/clients

- Final Nominations for the board for the new year –
  - Past President – Matt Semelbauer
  - President 21-22 – Emily Turner
  - President Elect 22-23 – Ben Barber
  - President Nominee – Joe Romeo
  - Secretary – Jose Santamaria (new) -motion by Matt S, second by Paul C; approved
  - Treasurer – Chris Cole
  - Directors term ending 6/30/24 – Roy Dangel, Mary Lou Wright
  - Directors term ending 6/30/23 – Mike Simon, Erica McCulley
  - Directors term ending 6/30/22 – Dick Hewitt, Kim Carr
  
- Amazon Smile Link - <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-3353675> - use this link to add Amazon as your chosen non-profit
- Payments are accepted through PayPal for Rotary items, you can find a PayPal quick link at <http://www.portagerotary.org/>, or use your PayPal app using [Rotaryclubofportage@gmail.com](mailto:Rotaryclubofportage@gmail.com)
- Super Bowl Winnings – contact Karen Foster
- Club Hero Nominations are due by April 16<sup>th</sup>.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES (through 03/16/21): Marlene Camacho-Ochoa has a birthday on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Pete & Charlene Marsiglia will celebrate their wedding anniversary on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

HAPPY BUCKS: - Happy Bucks, some very large, were given by Bill K, Mark B, Dick H, Jeannine W, M Simon and Randy Orwig.

Sergeant at Arms, Chris Buckley, then quizzed members on Daylight Savings Time earning bucks from Kim C, Betty Lee O, Paul C, Jim M, Matt S, Bill C, Wendell P, Art R and Shirley J.

Next week's program: Behind the Scenes' Keli Ekola of Kalamazoo Wings ([kekola@kwings.com](mailto:kekola@kwings.com))

The meeting was adjourned at 12:57 pm.

Replay this Zoom Meeting –

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/PFsJ20LwC1zWt4ByK1mOULN0ZWG-XH1xDyHutP0kcZwCU6csp0GC0N33mp\\_uKRe.MQUycHxhqMQGG3WA](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/PFsJ20LwC1zWt4ByK1mOULN0ZWG-XH1xDyHutP0kcZwCU6csp0GC0N33mp_uKRe.MQUycHxhqMQGG3WA) Passcode: 3RCa96=a



[Facebook link](#)

The Portage Rotary Club provides financial support for youth education, families in need and other local charitable causes. We are part of Rotary International. A service organization of business and professional leaders that provide humanitarian services and help build goodwill and peace in the world