

# Rotary Club of Portage Bulletin

## Porta-Rota-Call

July 6, 2022

by Jen Maynard

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by President Emily Turner Hollman.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Four Way Test was recited.

Our invocation was by Emily Turner Hollman.

Greeter Pete Marsiglia introduced Hershel Carr our guest (past Rotarian and Paul Harris Fellow).

Shirley Johnson introduced Joshua Kim, out outbound exchange student, heading to Finland. Joshua is heading to Finland on August 7. Today, we learned all about Josh and his family. He is active with PCTV (look for his videos on YouTube), Animal Rescue Project, and the Archery team at Portage Central High School. Joshua fell in love with the Finnair airline when he was on a family trip with his family to Sweden. This encouraged him to learn all about Finland and planning his trip with Rotary and the student exchange program. He is looking forward to making new friends, learning a new language, and learning all about Finland. One of his best friends was an exchange student from Spain. We look forward to inviting Joshua back and hearing all about his trip!

President Emily Turner Hollman shared highlights from 2021-2022. Wow what a year 2021-2022 was! As a club we did a lot of great things:

- Cleaned the Rotary Pavilion area a few times
- Had a great Golf outing – let us not forget your President won the “bad golfer award”
- Celebrated 2 Community Service Award Winners – Karen Foster and Christine Berro
- Assisted with the Peacock Strutt
- Participated in the Food drive for the schools
- Completed the Global Grant
- Became a Charter Org for Boy Scouts
- Announced a major gift to the club from the family of Chad Tufts and worked thru legal details
- Decorated the Tree at Celery Flats with the PCHS Interact Club
- Helped with Casa
- Conducted the Superbowl Raffle
- Conducted our Charity Auction
- 2 great sessions of Visioning with the District
- Welcomed a few new members – Katrina, Molly, and Dan
- Honored our Veterans with Flags
- Gave Scholarships to the students and KC Ready 4s
- Helped Red Cross several times
- Put together an investment committee
- Implemented a member moment segment of our meetings
- Updated our by-laws

We also had some interesting moments this past year:

- We lost some members
- We had a death of a member - Dick Ertz
- We had some transitions in the Board
- We did not hit our membership goal #

This next year Emily looks forward to more – more service, more doing, more community. She's confident our remarkable space will help us with new membership. She's keeping with a conservative number of +5 for new members, she believes we can do this and so much more. She's looking to getting back to some old traditions, such as the greeter announcing visitors and implementing a new thing or two this year. We need to work on fund raising, so there will be a focus there, as well as a strategy around the ideas that we came up with in the visioning sessions with the theme of "being the club of choice." She looks forward to a great year together – serving the community and giving of ourselves to make Portage an even better place to be.

#### Announcements:

- Emily reminded our club that the Play the PRO golf outing is **August 8**. Sponsors, help, and prizes are needed. We need 120 to 150 door prizes, golf balls, goodie bag items, and donations from local businesses. We could also use a few more teams.
- Dick Hewitt is passing around a signup sheet for Driving Miss Betty Lee. She needs a ride to and from Rotary each week. Free chauffeurs hat if you sign up for 3+ shifts.
- Emily reviewed board meeting notes from May and June meetings. 2022-2023 budget has been presented and is being finalized now for vote at the July board meeting. Moving bank accounts to Sturgis Bank.
- New lunch prices are \$13 per lunch with a guarantee that we will pay for 30 lunches each week for the next 3 months. There will be no extra staff to clean tables or clear plates. No China will be used either to save on cost.
- Next board meeting on **July 22** at 7:30 am at Traveler's Café and Pub. Everyone is welcome.
- Sign up for your 2022-2023 committees today. 😊
- Peacock Strutt is **September 12, 2022**.

Happy birthday to John Crandle and Gary Meyers. Member anniversaries for Bonnie Granado and Joe. No wedding anniversaries to celebrate.

Happy bucks and fines collected by Sergeant at arms Roy Dangel from Jim Pearson, Patricia Randall, Wendall Pierce, Bob Borsos, Josh Goodlock, Bill Kauffman, Mary Lou Wright, Paul Carlson, Chris Buckley, Randy Orwig, Dick Hewitt, Mike Simon, Dan Jacqua, Jim Pearson, Gary Meyers, Shirley Johnson, Jose Santamaria, Bonnie Granado, Emily Turner Hollman, and Roy Dangel.

50/50 drawing: Emily Turner Hollman won \$12.

Ace of spades drawing: Marlene Camacho-Ochoa didn't find the Ace.

Next program on July 13 will feature Josh Hilgart from the Kalamazoo Defenders Office.

Portage Senior Center Kim Phillips welcomed us to the new center. The Portage Senior Center is a center for active aging with a variety of activities and opportunities for older adults. Membership is through the roof--new members outnumber the old. Kim opened it up for questions and thanked Rotarians Mayor ... and Councilman Jim Pearson for their support. Membership is \$30/year for Portage residents. A lifetime membership option is \$300. They have scholarships available for anyone who cannot afford to pay. A fitness membership is a \$25/year add-on to your general membership. They also have a pickleball membership for unlimited drop ins and league play. The Center is available for rent, with rentals booking up quickly, through next year for private and non-profit parties. Rental rate sheets are available at the front desk. Rooms were built to be multi-functional for a variety of events and meetings. Kim provided guided tours to wrap up our meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:53 pm by President Emily Turner Hollman.



[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