



“The Peal”

Rotary Club of Canandaigua



Meeting Thursdays 12:15 p.m. American Legion Post #256 454 North Main Street	"ROTARY OPENS OPPORTUNITIES" www.canandaiguarotary.org Club 4765, District 7120, Organized Apr. 24, 1919	Publication Date: April 8, 2021 No. 38 Volume 101
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Official Newsletter of the Canandaigua Rotary Service Foundation

Today's Program: Sonya Smith – Inclusion in Motion Playground

Next Week: Kevin Olvany – Canandaigua Lake Watershed

Meeting notes from April 1, 2021

Pledge: Lynn Holcomb

Invocation: Ellen Polimeni

Song: Kim Tenreiro – Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin’

Visiting Rotarians: Bob Metzger via Zoom

Announcements:

Lynn Holcomb said plans to award Paul Harris to **John Spare** put on hold as his facility is currently on lock down. **Donna Miller** passed out nominations for Small Businessperson of the Year. **Marty Potter** passed out sign-up sheets for the upcoming Watershed Clean-up project and also circulated Perfect Attendance sheets. **Janet Tenreiro** reminded the District Training Assembly is on April 10, is free to all, and recommended for all, especially new members and those wanting involvement in club leadership. **Scott Kesel** announced the Fort Hill Performing Arts Center is slated to re-open in April.

Happy Dollars: **Gloria Dancause** donated \$10 for return from Florida and closing on their place, almost. **Tom Rogers** returned from recent travel. **Dick McCaughey** celebrated a new car and 3 weeks post second vaccination. **Kim Tenreiro** donated for having a second vaccination and a birthday. **Marty Muehe** received his second vaccination today. **Lynn Holcomb** got her first shot this week.

Program: *Reginald (Reg) Cox – Fatherhood Connection.* Reg self-describes as a husband, father, servant, parent educator and Disciple. He is the Founder and Executive Director of the Fatherhood Connection and was the Senior Pastor of the Changing Lives Worship center for 9 years.

In his passionate speaking style Reg explained the goals of the Fatherhood Connection and the systems in place to achieve those ends.

One of the greatest social ills of any nation is fatherlessness and its impact. Abuse, teenage pregnancy, education and academic achievement, physical and emotional wellbeing are some areas affected when a healthy father is removed from the family. It impacts the nurturing of that family and the protection of their children.

His programs have been developed to coach and counsel in the areas of child development, fatherhood, boyhood, parenting, communication skills, anger management, conflict resolution, blended families, values & behaviors, healthy relationships, domestic violence, and more.

Currently, his reach extends to eight counties with a desire to establish an Ontario County program set. Reg focuses a lot of his own efforts in finding and training the trainers so each location can self-sustain.

Many of the program participants have experienced trauma in their own lives that perpetuates to their own families causing anger and recidivism. These traumas must be dealt with to enable a stable family bond to occur and break the cycle.

Gloria Dancause inquired how these programs are funded. Reg said this is always a challenge. Each 13-week course can cost ten to fifteen thousand dollars. He is working with the State Department and community action groups to meet this challenge. The ultimate goal is to train a trainer and create a sustainable program.

Don Raw asked about technological challenges and whether data to validate impact is being collected. Reg indicated becoming tech savvy has been a personal challenge, but he has gained enough expertise to coach. Availability of resources to program leaders remains an issue. Currently, they are not in a position to quantify the impact through data collection, but anecdotally he has seen the positive outcomes of the program.

Dick McCaughey asked if his program was connected with the Department of Social Services (DSS). That is typically the starting point for establishing a program. As yet he has not made an Ontario County connection with DSS or community stakeholders.

Janet Tenreiro asked how long his program has been in existence. Reg said he has been doing work in this area in various ways since the mid 1990's. The Fatherhood Connection was established in 2010.

Paul Harvey observed there seems to be a notion today that families are not needed. How can this idea be countered? Reg related examples in his own life and in raising his children how the parents have differing strategies and interpretations on how to deal with issues and that both perspectives are critical to the child-rearing process.

In closing, Reg said he believes every man has a treasure inside him and that his role is that of treasure hunter. With the right environment it can be nurtured that potential can be tapped.

The Joker Draw was won by **Mary Green** who drew the Ace of clubs. **Gloria Dancause** won the 50/50 and donated the \$11 purse to the club.