



“The Peal”

Rotary Club of Canandaigua



Meeting Thursdays 12:15 p.m.
American Legion Post #256
454 North Main Street

"CREATE HOPE in the WORLD"
www.canandaiguarotary.org
Club 4765, District 7120, Organized Apr. 24, 1919

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Today's Program: The Spot

Next Week: TBD

Meeting notes from August 31, 2023

Pledge: President Nancy

Visiting Rotarians: Visiting our club as part of our program for the day were **Meg Huff** from the Bloomfield Rotary Club and **Linda Werts** and **Doug Doeler** from the Newark Rotary Club.

Guests: Adeline Rudolph's guest was **John Casey** who works with Adeline on the Canandaigua Town Board and joining us as part of the program was **Sylla**, a Haitian refugee.

Remembrance: A card was signed for **Jack Moran** who recently fell and injured his neck. Jack is home, in a neck brace, recuperating.

Exchange Student: Stine Joergensen, our exchange student from Denmark, reported she had a good week. She attended a Rotary mentoring program along with other exchange students. The program is designed to be like an orientation program for the students. She attended a beach volleyball game with her host sister who plays the game. Stine also had swimming practice at the high school as she will be on the school's swim team.

Announcements: **Kent Gilges** reminded everyone to sign up for The Race for the Rest of Us being held on Saturday, September 9th. **Steve Uebbing** reported the RPO Holiday Concert Committee has been busy getting everything in order for the concert which will be held on Thursday evening, November 30th. The RPO agreed to hold the pricing at last year's fee, which was good news. **Steve Uebbing** shared that our own **Doug Merrill** has been selected to fill the vacancy on City Council. Congratulations Doug! **Gareth Evans** shared that Habitat for Humanity ReStore is looking for people to help on Saturday afternoons to be cashiers, as well as individuals who could help during the week to pick up furniture being donated.

Happy Dollars/Fines: **Steve Uebbing** shared that he and Ellen fulfilled a request by the late John Wilcox that they visit Chautaugua. Steve suggested, if you have never been there, it is certainly worth checking out. **Jack and Ginny Kellogg** took a train ride in Old Forge with friends. Unfortunately, his friend had to be taken by ambulance to the hospital in Utica. Jack also visited his niece in Maine and spent time on Peak Island. **Scott Kesel** was happy to report that all 3000 of his garlic bulbs are now out of the ground and drying out on his porch. (I guess he won't have to worry about any

vampires coming around.) **Mike Wilcox** had \$5 happy dollars to have the summer over with as he no longer has to drive school bus and can attend Rotary once again. **George Herren** was happy that his grandson who is in his 3rd year at RIT has already been promised a full-time job once he graduates. **Sam Viggiani** had a few dollars to be able to share what a great organization he believes Called to Care is.

Program: *Called to Care, presented by Meg Huff, Linda Werts and Sylla.*

Meg shared Called to Care was started two years ago with Linda Werts getting things in motion when she looked for volunteers to help refugees. The organization has committees that help refugees get settled. Those committees include such things as documentation, education, housing, transportation, fundraising, etc. When refugee families arrive here in our area, a 'good neighbor team', consisting of 6-7 people, is assigned to help each family settle and acclimate to life in America. Refugees have found work in landscaping (Ubber Lawn & Landscape) and hotel work (Hotel Canandaigua). Meg talked about the value of cultural diversity, and though we are different in some ways, we are also very much the same in other ways. Their organization holds to the value of being flexible, remaining calm and doing their very best to help, even when refugees arrive in the middle of the night.

The first two families Called to Care assisted were from Ukraine. The third family was from Haiti. Our very own Judi Gorenflo and her fiancé, Doug have helped to settle three families from Haiti. Sylla, who is from Haiti spoke to us about his life in Haiti and his journey to America. He shared the difficulties he faced when, at the age of 9 years old, his father passed away. It was his faith in God that kept his hope alive that things would get better. He is now here with his family. His three children will be starting school here in Canandaigua.

For anyone interested in attending, the organization's next meeting will be on September 18th @ 4pm in the St. Mary's Parish Hall.

Jackpot Tickets: SELL, SELL, SELL

Rick Hawks reported 514 tickets have been sold out of the 600 available. Early bird tickets were drawn. If you need more tickets to sell, see Rick.

Joker Draw: With \$385 ready for the taking, **Adeline Rudolph** had the 1st ticket and unfortunately drew the 9 of Clubs. Next was **Gloria Dancause** who walked home with \$18. **Mary Green** and **Marty Muehe** both won the bouquets of gladiolus.