Rotary Minutes for 1.20.2022

Present: Mary Bouchard, Shelly Bullock, Zoren Bullock, Peggy Haine, Michael Jimenez, Cindy Kain, Joan Munich, Kathleen Overbaugh, Tom Overbaugh, Angel Stillions, Durand Van Doren, Frank Zgola

Absent: Joseph Barrett, Neil DeRaiche, Ben Guthrie, Dennis Guy-Sell, Mary Guy-Sell, Bill Overbaugh, Darlynne Overbaugh

Guests: Kevin Romer, Chris Romer, Kevin Whittaker, all of the Trumansburg Fire Company

**MEETING NOTES**

President Kathleen rang the meeting open. She said there has been a call from the District to help Afghani refugees settle in the United States. The club agreed that this sounded like an overwhelming task for a club as small as ours, but that we might consider teaming up with a larger club (Ithaca Noon, perhaps) to help. Kathleen will forward the request to T’burg Rotarians. This is on hold for now.

Frank said the Tburg Rotary Duck Race is on for May 14 at 1:00. He will tell Jessica Giles and Carissa Parlato so they can enter it in the Village calendar. It is on the same day as the Village Yardsale. Tom noted that the ducks are all numbered.

President Kathleen noted that the Student of the Month program seems to be at a standstill, and that she will check with Neil to see where we are with it.

Cindy told us there will be no Leadership Institute this year in our district, but said there are two virtual events, and that the district will pay for two people in each club to attend. It’s not just for Rotary leaders, she said, but for all who would like to know more about Rotary. The first virtual meeting is on February 5, and the second sometime in March. In addition, Cindy will be attending a redistricting meeting and will report back.

Guest Speaker: Kevin Romer

President Kathleen introduced our guest speaker, Kevin Romer, of the Trumansburg Fire Company, to speak about the Company’s fund drive to replace its outdated “Jaws of Life” equipment at a cost of ~$125,000: $100K for the basic equipment and $25K for ancillary equipment. The current outdated JOL equipment, some of it 35 years old, and all of it physically tied to a firetruck’s power system, needs to be replaced. The replacement equipment is battery operated, and can be carried a distance to the scene of an accident, whereas the current equipment is tethered to the fire truck’s operating system, and can be used only a short distance from the truck, which is not always useful or convenient. The truck itself isn’t as agile as the company would like, and they are planning to replace it in the next two years.

Because Trumansburg has the greatest number of firefighters of any company in the area, they serve a large group of communities, and respond to 40-50 crashes a year, about two thirds of them requiring Jaws of Life intervention. Originally devised for use in race car collisions, Jaws of Life equipment’s design is always catching up to the car industry’s modernizations. The equipment the fire company is planning to buy will work on electric and hybrid cars as well as gasoline-powered vehicles. Once funds are secured, delivery will take 8 – 12 weeks.

**Fundraiser alert**: the fire company will hold a chicken barbecue on Superbowl Sunday, February 13 at the fire station, beginning at noon.

**Happy Dollars**

$1 from Mary Bouchard who is going to Alaska again to help Alaskan natives with their taxes. She’ll be going to Anchorage in March, right at the beginning of the Iditarod.

$1 from Frank for Kevin Romer’s presentation; Frank suggested that the Fire Company be the recipient of funds raised by the Duck Race.

$1 from Joan,  whose daughter’s house was recently saved by the Fire Department.

$1 from Kathleen, in appreciation of Joan’s being safe after the fire.

$1 from Zoren to celebrate Ben Guthrie’s new grandchild.

$1 from Zoren to congratulate Tom for running a successful virtual Passport Fair for Student Exchange.

**UPCOMING SPEAKERS**

January 27: Captain Sean of the Salvation Army,

February 10: Meaghan Sheehan Rosen, Coordinator, Friendship Donations Network.