Rotary Minutes for 1.27.2022

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

Guest: Captain Stacy McNeil, Salvation Army

Absent: Joseph Barrett, Mark Baumann, Jane Broadfield, Ben Guthrie, Dennis Guy-Sell, Mary Guy-Sell, Bill Overbaugh, Darlynne Overbaugh

Guest Speaker: Captain Stacy McNeil of the Salvation Army came to fill us in on the Salvation Army’s work in Tompkins County, and particularly in the Trumansburg area. She explained that the Tompkins County Food Pantry is located in their North Albany Street building, and they receive food donations from Trader Joe’s and Walmart. They work with Loaves and Fishes to provide hot meals. They also provide outreach to the homeless, bringing meals and other services, and have just started a homeless-to-house program. They also provide case management and coaching to help homeless people get back on their feet.

Another part of their mission is providing services to youth, including their Christmas program which served over 600 kids this year with clothing and toys. They also have a fresh-air fund program.

The Trumansburg area has a Salvation Army service unit that includes volunteers in the area who organize the bell-ringing holiday fundraiser, and nurses in the schools who provide students in need with vouchers for the Salvation Army’s clothing store in Ithaca, and whatever else is needed. 87% of all funds that are raised in Trumansburg’s Kettle Drive are distributed in the Tburg area, including $1000 to the Food Pantry, eye exams and glasses through Neil Henninger, and Thanksgiving dinners. This year about $7,000 was raised in the drive, down from last year’s $9,000 – COVID! They will shortly be partnering with INHS on a low-income housing project to serve veterans and others. She also mentioned that Tompkins County is very well served with food pantries and places for free hot meals.

Student of the Month: We have two fall SOMs and there is a nomination for a January SOM to be reviewed by the SOM committee. Neil shared a colorful poster he’s developed to advertise the program, and he’ll ask Mary GuySell to produce it. Peggy agreed to take a nomination form to Rich at the ShurSave – he told her he could probably nominate one or more of the store’s student-workers.

New President: We were saddened to learn that Mary Guy-Sell is unable to serve as president next year, so we need to find another. There were no immediate volunteers. She will not be able to captain the Golf Classic either.

Golf Tournament Alternative: Mary Bouchard suggested that instead of the Golf Classic, which is labor intensive and which Mary has successfully run for years, we instead try out a beer passport with which participants would, for a $34 contribution, be able to buy a single beverages at many of our many local breweries or other beverage providers, and get a second one free. The prospect was met with great enthusiasm. Tune in next week.

Duck Race: It was agreed that the Duck Race would be held this year as a benefit for the Trumansburg Fire Department’s Jaws of Life drive, and that after the race we would decide what percentage of the proceeds would go to the Fire Company; the language describing that allocation would be “a fund raiser in support of the Tburg Fire Dept’s jaws-of-life purchase.” It was agreed that it would be held on May 14 at 1:00 p.m.

Happy Dollars:

$1 from Cindy in celebration of Sam Khouri’s asking he to speak in Oneonta on the Rotary Leadership Institute, and on her journey to become District Governor

$1 from Durand for our good speaker

$1 from Joan for having their home remodeled in the wake of a recent fire

$1 from Michael for our previous Exchange student from Mexico, Andi, who has written that she’s getting married.

The meeting ended with the Five-Way test and VICCY. See you Thursday!