



The Rotary Club of Elmhurst *District 6450*
Fellowship – Understanding – Service – Ethics
www.elmhurstrotary.org

October 24, 2024

We welcomed Jim Donoghue, guest of Scott Studebaker. Jim is a former member of Elmhurst Rotary who now resides at Park Place in Elmhurst.

The **Thought for the Day**, from William Faulkner: "You cannot swim for new horizons until you have courage to lose sight of the shore."

Polio Plus: 19 cards remain in the deck. More intriguing, the pot is now over \$2,000. Buy more tickets next week and increase your chances of taking home more than \$1,000. One of our program presenters from the Women of Bethel Shoe Fund was kind enough to draw a ticket from the fishbowl and drew her own ticket! Kim's luck did not hold, and the ten of clubs was torn up. Next week?

Fines: Garry Vaccaro's fine session started on a somewhat serious note: When asked what is celebrated today, Oct. 24, our esteemed club president said it is World Polio Day but Garry said that on this day in 1945, the United Nations received its charter. From there the questions got less serious as we were quizzed about National Bologna Day, Oct. 24. Who knew that the US consumes 800 million pounds of bologna every year?

Announcements

- * Needed: Finemaster for Nov. 7. No bologna.
- * Needed: **a 2025-26 nominating committee chair.**
- * Charlie Laliberte announced that District 6450 has awarded a \$600 District Grant to the Elmhurst Rotaract Club.
- * Rachael Mason announced "Staying Mentally Fit" program on Tuesday, Nov. 5 from 1:30 to 2:30 pm in Meeting Room B, Elmhurst Public Library. A voice said he would go if someone reminded him...
- * Sign up next Thurs. for the club's Winter Gathering December 5 at Frank's Garage in Hillside.

Program

Kim Wietzorek, who once worked as a social worker, and retired middle school teacher Ellen Braun from the Women of Bethel Shoe Fund explained that sixteen percent of District 205's students come from low-income families who cannot always afford to buy shoes for their children. Every school in the district is affected. Relying on the knowledge and experience of the district's social workers to identify these kids, the Shoe Fund hand delivers vouchers to the parents who can redeem them at Elmhurst's Shoe Carnival store.

Shoe Carnival only bills the Shoe Fund for that portion of the vouchers actually used, a process that allows the Shoe Fund to reallocate unused voucher dollars to future needs.

Requests have escalated and last year involved 78 families and 129 children. Vouchers worth \$11,900 were issued. Although the Women of Bethel have held a number of events to generate funds for shoes, they are always looking for ways to raise money to meet the increasing demand.

The Shoe Fund was started 53 years ago by women from Bethel UCC and other local churches but now the Women of Bethel are solely responsible for the project. Although the need for kids' shoes has grown significantly, Bethel Church has been creative in its fund raising for shoes and thus far, no kids have been turned away. Kim and Ellen expressed their appreciation several times for our club's assistance.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

- 10/31 To be determined
- 11/7 Eric Blaustein, Holocaust survivor
- 11/21 Eve Green, District 6450 Polio Plus Chair

FINER-THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

- 10/31 Joe Weigel
- 11/7 Frank Troost
- 11/14 C J Merrill

ROTARY 2024-2025

The Magic of Rotary

Rotary International President

Stephanie A. Urchick – McMurray, PA

District 6450 District Governor

Rachael Ossyra – Aurora United

Rotary Club of Elmhurst Officers

President	Marilyn Boria
President-Elect	Greg St. Laurent
Secretary	Joe Weigel
Treasurer	Jim Clohessy
Past-President	Frank Troost
Directors	Al Spada
	Dave McKenna
	C. J. Merrill
	Garry Vaccaro

<u>Member</u>	<u>Spouse</u>	<u>Classification</u>
Bartels, Ken	Marge	Civic Leader
Bergheger, Brian	Carol Doyle	Retired-Museum Director
Boria, Marilyn	Phil	Retired-Library Director
Cahill, Valerie	Hal	Risk Mgmt. Director-YMCA
Carroll, Larry	Carlotta	Post-Secondary Education
Clohessy, Jim	Vanessa	Accounting-Small Business
Gorski, Maryann	Ron	Resident Artist
Harper, Mary Beth	Jim	Library Director
Hill, Collin	Megan	Retail Jewelry
Hostetler, Harry	Marie	Retired-Manufacturer
Kopecky, Rob	Cheryl	Retired Photographer
Kosik, Marilyn		Residential Real Estate
Kunesh, Dan	Paula	Industrial Supply Distribution
Laliberte, Charlie	Betty	Education-Children UP-Uganda
Libovicz, Elaine		Retired-City Treasurer
Linson, Curt	Nancy	Retired-Packaging
Lyman, Bill	Linda	Retired-Railway Management
Mason, Rachael		Business Services – Pub. Library
McKenna, Dave	Tammy	Home Construction
Mehta, Shazad		Auto Repair Service
Merrill, C. J.	Alice	Retired-Music Educator
Nichele, Joe	Kelly	Attorney
Nilles, Joe		Property Management
Pitz, Arthur	Suzanne	Retired-International Relations
Robinson, Jody	John	Financial Planner
Sakash, Bill		Retired-Industrial Distribution
Shanklin, Bill		Retired-Packaging
Slone, Joyce	Russ Weigand	Commercial Real Estate
Spada, Al	Beth	Non-Profit Management
St. Laurent, Greg	Brenda Lee	Retired-Retail Packaging
Studebaker, Scott	Mary	Healthcare Development

Sukowicz, Mark	Joan	Accounting
Troost, Frank	Patricia	Retired-Monument Company
Turnbough, Eli		Funeral Director
Tyburnski, Susan	Paul Weisel	Hospital Development
Vaccaro, Garry	Debra	Warm Coats for Cool Kids
Villiard, Bob	Becky	Retired-International Logistics
Weigel, Joe	Aileen	Commercial Lending

THE ROTARY CLUB OF ELMHURST meets for lunch at 12:00 noon at the *Elmhurst Public Library, 125 S. Prospect Avenue, Elmhurst*, followed by a program and ending by 1:30pm. **Lunch is catered except for a beverage.** The BrewPoint Coffee bar, located just inside the Library, has a limited supply of drinks in addition to coffee your way.

THE FOUR WAY TEST of the things we think, say, or do:

- Is it the TRUTH?
- Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?
- No. 5: "Is it any fun"? [Ted Arey]

"Rotary International is the world's leading humanitarian service organization", Cliff Lyda, Past Pres. of Elmhurst Rotary & Past District 6450 Governor.

Thanks to Brian Bergheger for writing the F.U.S.E. last week while your regular scribe was basking in Florida sunshine.

14: The number of Elmhurst Rotarians in attendance today.

The Rest of the Story: Our Rotary Club has been a regular contributor to the Women of Bethel Shoe Fund as part of awarding grants to local and area charities. (These funds are made possible largely from our annual fundraiser.)

However, when the club did not receive a grant request from the Shoe Fund a few years ago, Marilyn Boria, club grants chair at the time, asked if the Shoe Fund had overlooked our grant application deadline. No, came the reply, they had not applied that year because they had received a large grant from another group and felt it prudent to forego asking for funds they really did not need. *The Four Way Test is not limited to Rotarians...*

Winter Gathering December 5. Sign up next Thurs.

Send announcements and (corrections) for next week's F.U.S.E. to wclyman2@gmail.com