



The Rotary Club of Elmhurst *District 6450*

Fellowship – Understanding – Service – Ethics

www.ElmhurstRotary.com

October 23, 2025

Guests: Phil Boria, guest of Marilyn

Thought for the Day: From *Stop Time*, author Frank Conroy (a veteran of the Univ. of Iowa's acclaimed Writers Workshop. Conroy suggests how a book can capture a moment in time for a reader, creating an imagined experience that is seemingly real...books were reality. A good lead-in to today's program.

Polio Plus: Brian Bergheger's ticket came out of the fishbowl today, but it didn't help his luck as he pulled the king of hearts from the deck. Someone asked how many cards were left if the deck. The answer: A Lot.

At fine time, President Greg was behind the podium when fine master Brian asked if he could "Take your spot," to which Greg immediately replied, "Absolutely, and for the rest of the Rotary year." Ignoring that fast retort, Brian proceeded to ask us five questions about public libraries in the US. How many? 22,000. Including branches, bookmobiles, etc.? 125,000. A library in which state stretches into Canada? Vermont. Which US president sold his library? Thos. Jefferson, to the Library of Congress. Where is the first public library in the US? Franklin, Massachusetts.

Announcements

Reminder: Our **Winter Gathering will be Thursday, December 11** from 6 to 9pm at the new Victory Meat & Seafood location, 132 N. York Street in downtown Elmhurst.

-Six Rotarians and one spouse helped the UCCA food distribution effort at Churchville Middle School Saturday morning. Becky Villiard read a very appreciative note from the UCCA for our assistance. A photo of **Rotarians at Work is on page 3**. More than 50 families received meat, vegetables, milk, and more, packaged and delivered by your fellow Rotarians.

-Another food drive and distribution effort, this one organized by ICDI (Illinois Community for Displaced Immigrants) will take place Wednesday, November 19 at Elmhurst Presbyterian Church. In addition to volunteers,

food donations are needed for this ICDI Thanksgiving food effort. **A list of items for those food baskets is on page 3**. Bring your food donations to the November 13 Rotary meeting. Alternatively, you can donate \$23 to help fill the baskets. More than 1,000 people are expected to benefit from this effort.

-Planning for our 2026 spring fundraiser is underway with a tentative date of April 16 with a format similar to last year's.

Program

Today's scheduled program was cancelled on very short notice but Rotarians Harper and Boria came through with a program entitled "The Joy of Reading". A brief introduction reminded us that reading is a privilege and a luxury. Also, that access to books is power.

Many of our club members have Elmhurst Public Library cards and are familiar with the facility. To reduce the time needed to find an interesting book to read, EPL has a questionnaire designed for library staff to analyze your preferences for suggesting titles or authors that you are apt to find enjoyable, be they fiction or non-fiction.

Marilyn briefly described three books that she really liked, with Mary Beth doing the same. Then they turned to members to for their description a book that they really liked. A half dozen did so and the variety was amazing.

Once again, we were reminded of what a great asset our public library is. Thanks to Marilyn and Mary Beth for a fun discussion.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

11/6	Park District/Prairie Path Maintenance
11/13	Elmhurst Mayor Scott Levin
11/20	Business meeting

FINER-THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

11/6	Jody Robinson
11/13	Tom Marcucci
11/20	Curt Linson

ROTARY 2025-2026

Unite for Good

Rotary International President

Francesco Arrezo – Ragusa, Italy

District 6450 District Governor

Bonnie Sanchez-Carlson

Rotary Club of Elmhurst Officers

President	Greg St. Laurent
President-Elect	Greg St. Laurent
Secretary	Joe Weigel
Treasurer	Tony Mandarino
Past-President	Marilyn Boria
Directors	Al Spada
	C. J. Merrill
	Eli Turnbough
	Ken Bartels

<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
Linson, Curt	Nancy	Retired-Packaging
Lyman, Bill	Linda	Retired-Railway Management
Mandarino, Tony	Christine	Retired – Business Consultant
Marcucci, Tom	Mimi	Former Mayor
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
Troost, Frank	Patricia	Retired-Monument Company
Tilley, Jay		Retired
Turnbough, Eli		Funeral Director
Tyburnski, Susan	Paul Wcisel	Hospital Development
Vaccaro, Garry	Debra	Warm Coats for Cool Kids
Villiard, Becky	Bob	Retired Elementary teacher
Weigel, Joe	Aileen	Retired - Commercial Lending
Wojcik, Woj	Aga Barnak	Financial Planning

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 Rotary District 6450 Governor.

24: The number of Elmhurst Rotarians in attendance today. For those who did not make today's meeting, we still had food left over. Which of you no-shows will be the first to cause us to run out of food? (But not to worry, Frank is still supplying candy bars for your sweet tooth.)

Kudos to Past President Mary Ann Gorski for gracefully accepting being welcomed to the meeting today as a guest...

What was that conversation about routinely fining the club president? Well, don't despair, Greg. It will only get better next year....



One big truck, seven willing helpers. L-R: Weigel, Lyman, Boria, Wojcik, Slone, B. Villiard, R Villiard. The truck and the food came from the Northern Illinois Food Bank. The event was organized and managed by the United Community Concerns Association.

Items for ICDI's Thanksgiving Food Baskets:

2 lb. bag of pinto beans
2 lb. bag of white rice
Instant Ramen Noodles (Maruchan)
pasta
cereal
flour (P.A.N. or Maseca)
cooking oil (any kind)
salt
sugar

microwaveable popcorn
apple and/or grape juice
white sandwich bread
jelly (grape or strawberry)
peanut butter
canned tuna
canned chicken
macaroni and cheese