

Reporting Meeting of 4 January 2016

PROGRAM — JINA BYEON

Calendar of Events

Last Week: 2015/12/28 Dinner at Sam's Chinese, Burnt Hills
This Week: 2016/1/4 Jina Byeon, Korean School Teacher
Next Week: 1/11 Club Assembly; Board Meeting at 5 PM
Deadline for donations to Polio Plus
Coming Up 1/18 To Be Determined

Invocation: George Bailey, Garry Morrow or Dan Stec

Note: Regular meetings are held Monday Evenings at 6:15 PM in the William E. Sewell Memorial Room at the Ballston Town Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- President Bill Wehrle led the Pledge of Allegiance
- Bob Youmans led the singing of *God Bless America*
- George Bailey presented an inspirational invocation
- Happy Dollars were collected by Mike Brewster
- Len Porter was voted an honorary member of the club
- Bill Wehrle was recognized for his participation in the *Polar Plunge* in Lake George on New Year's Day. A video of the event was screened by Mike Brewster. Bill was honored with the presentation of a mounted singing bass (fish that is).

ROTARY STORY — TOM BROWNELL

Tom outlined the events leading to his joining the BHBL Rotary Club. During an eighteen-year career with GE, he met Paul Lewandowsky professionally, and through him Steve Caine. He left GE to start a new business, retiring from that in 2012, followed by volunteer activities, renewed interaction with the club and then membership.

Jina is a holiday house guest of Bill and Martha Lonergan, was introduced by Bill, and is the significant other of their son Reid, having met through Reid's editing of Jina's dissertation.

She is a middle-school teacher in her homeland, South Korea. She was brought up on a family farm in the mountainous south of the country, and has successfully achieved her early ambition of becoming a school teacher. Jina has applied for and won a Fulbright scholarship to earn her master's degree at the University of Wisconsin where she is in the first year of a two-year program.

At home, Jina teaches English and social studies to middle-school students in grades 7 through 9. A typical teaching load is 4 or 5 classes of 35 students. She knows all the parents of her homeroom students, and has full responsibility for the discipline of the students in her classes. The teacher is the social worker in the South Korean public schools! Some parents are too busy with working for a living to fully supervise their children with resulting problems in the classroom. In response to questions, about 98 percent of the students in her school go on to high school, and about 90 percent of those go to college. There are US-style extracurricular activities in her school, which are largely performed during the regular school day. Classes in English start in the fourth grade, and continue through high school. The students are required to perform volunteer work during the school year.

It was an interesting program. The club wishes Jina success in her present studies and her future life.



Reported by Fred Bailly

For January: Set up: Peter Parker, Bill Lonergan, John Fettke; Clean-up: Dan Stec, Fred Bailly, Mary Anderson; Greeter; Bill McClary: