

## Reporting ZOOM Meeting of 24 May 2021

### Calendar of Events

**Last Week:** 5/17 Town in Bloom Planting Work Night (no zoom mtg.)

**This Week:** 5/24 4-H New Building Project Discussion

**Next Week:** 5/31 No Meeting – Memorial Day Observed

**Coming Up:** 6/07 Jim Tracy, Author – *Sworn to Silence*  
6/14 Saratoga Arts – Louise Kerr & Scholarship Winners

Note: Regular ZOOM Meetings are held Mondays at 6:00 pm. Check your e-mail inbox the day of the meeting for the computer ZOOM ID# and Password, as well as the phone number you can use to phone in if using your cell phone to participate.

*Please give suggestions for future programs to Darlene Bower  
and Dan Stec.*

*Find us at bhblrotary.org and on Facebook*

*Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting  
change – across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

– Gregg opened the meeting with the Rotary vision statement and Suzette directed the recitation of the *Five-Way Test*.

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– Greg reported with 19 responses to his survey that 15 of 18 members said yes to attending an in person indoor meeting. 19 said yes to attending an outdoor meeting. 17 will attend the changeover meeting on June 28<sup>th</sup> at the Charlton School. 2 members will be away.

– Jon reported that a District Giving Matching initiative is going on right now through Monday May 30<sup>th</sup>. If you give \$250 to the Rotary Foundation, the District will give you 750 pts making your contribution worth 1,000 pts earning you a Paul Harris Fellow.

– Maryellen Symer reported that all of the scholarship recipients except the Skilled Workforce have been decided. We are inviting the scholarship winners to the June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

– Mary Anderson thanked everyone who helped with the Town in Bloom planting evening. The tailgate pizza get together after the planting was a great success. We could actually see each other in person...not zoom.

– Greg introduced us to Walter's granddaughter Emily. She spoke briefly about herself and expressed an interest in Rotary. It was also mentioned that Walter will be 97 on May 28<sup>th</sup>.

– Gregg requested that everyone send their birthday dates to him.

### 4H New Building Presentation

Greg introduced Meg Soden and Greg Stevens from Saratoga County 4H. They began by explaining that the 4H is a part of Cornell Cooperative Extension in Saratoga County. There are 50 clubs in New York with about 700 youth members and 93 volunteers. 4H reaches about 1200 school age youth through school outreach programs.

Some of the activities include leadership training, a teen council, animal science (equine), fishing derby, bird house project (conservation), community outreach (dog training sessions for dog and trainer), a field day for about 600 youth and robotics.

The training center is forty years old and due to higher demand is currently exceeding its capacity to provide facilities for youth activities. A program committee was established to determine whether to renovate existing facilities or build new ones. Since the existing classroom facilities were inadequate for the demand to use them, a new facility with three classrooms equipped with modern technology & three ADA compliant bath rooms including a family bathroom have been planned.

The largest of these rooms will be primarily for the 4-H S.T.E.M. and robotic classes. Saratoga County houses the largest 4-H Robotics Program in New York State. One of these new rooms will give the program the opportunity to host robotic events with participation from schools and other robotics clubs across the Capital Region. The other two state-of-the-art classrooms will have a retractable wall separating them so they can accommodate larger classes or two smaller classes.

The budget for the new facility is \$500,000. A building permit from the Town of Wilton has been secured and preliminary ground preparation including septic and fill delivered for free has been completed.

They are contacting elected officials, businesses, towns and local service organizations for financial support or in-kind support. The Dake family (Stewart's Shops) has pledged \$100,000 and more has been pledged by other organizations. The formal fund-raising campaign will begin on June 7<sup>th</sup>. We were asked to consider donating \$500 to the 4H new building campaign.

*Reported by Pete P.*

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