

Reporting ZOOM Meeting of 7 June 2021

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

Calendar of Events

Last Week: 5/31 No Meeting – Memorial Day Observed
This Week: 6/07 Jim Tracy, Author – *Sworn to Silence*
Next Week: 6/14 Saratoga Arts – Louise Kerr
Coming Up: 6/21 Kristen Farzone, the Believe KNT Foundation
6/28 Change Over Meeting @ The Charlton School

Note: Regular Zoom Meetings are held on Monday's at 6:00 pm (check your email in-box 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Gregg opened the meeting with the Rotary vision statement and Steve Caine directed the recitation of the *Five-Way Test*.
- Maryellen Symer reported that scholarship checks and congratulatory letters were delivered to the high school last week. She will be inviting Karen English, from the Galway Food Pantry to a meeting for members to learn more about the food pantry services.
- After the presentation, Gregg presented the Paul Harris Fellow Plus Four to Steve Caine.
- Those interested in donating to 4-H for their Capital Project, please forward a check to Darlene at 150 Goode Street.
- This Thursday at 4:30 pm is a Board of Directors meeting. Our changeover is June 28th at the Charlton School. Food will be ordered through Panera. More information to come.
- Beth Gregory from the Glenville Club contacted Darlene about a large get together of local clubs. This is an opportunity to learn more about other clubs and how we could work together on service projects, etc.
- Information about the June 9th services for the Porters has been shared via email.

Jim Tracy, Author – *Sworn to Silence*

Linda introduced our speaker, Jim Tracy, a local author who wrote *Sworn to Silence*. The book is about Robert Garrow, a serial rapist and killer, whose crimes took place in New York in the 1970's.

Our guest author, Jim Tracy, grew up in Fort Edward and spent time with family hunting in Speculator where Jim's dad had a hunting camp. Garrow broke into the Tracy's hunting camp while police were actively searching for him. Jim shared that he was just a young teenager then and he went to the camp (when it was safe) with his dad and they could see Garrow's boot print on a table at the camp. Garrow's crimes occurred in the Adirondacks through the Syracuse region. His crime spree lasted over two weeks in length prior to him being captured. Garrow was convicted of four murders.

Jim Tracy worked for the Post Star and suggested that someone write about Robert Garrow. The Post Star editors suggested that Jim write the piece. Jim wrote a piece for the Post Star that received attention. When he decided to write a book about Garrow's crimes and capture, he researched Garrow and conducted interviews with those involved for over nine years.

A man from Ballston Spa who shot Garrow in the foot was responsible for Garrow's capture. It is believed that Garrow murdered over 20 people and shared the location of two of the bodies in early September with his two attorneys. The attorneys believed that the information was confidential based on client-attorney privilege. On Thanksgiving Day two 12 year old boys were out hiking in Mineville and came upon one of the bodies. Initially, the boys were not believed. On December 1st a mother and the son went to the site where the body was and contacted the NYS State Police. A week later a Syracuse University student found the second body that the lawyers had previously found. The lawyers felt that they could not tell the police what they found because of attorney – client privilege. They believed the 5th, 6th, and 14th amendments required them to keep what Garrow had shared a secret.

Changes occurred to a lawyer's oath and to what a criminal defense attorney is able to share. One of the lawyers involved wrote a book that became a movie. The movie shares the same name as Jim Tracy's book, *Sworn to Silence* and was released in 1987. A second movie, *Garrow*, was also made. Another local author wrote a book called, *Terror in the Adirondacks*. The author shared that victims' families have not been able to speak about what happened. A lively discussion about the events of the book was discussed with the author. Rotarians who have read the book have shared it is a page-turner. The author's email address is: jptrace@hotmail.com

Reported by Maryellen Symer

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