

Reporting Hybrid Meeting of 17 October 2022

Calendar of Events

Last Week: 10/10 Melanoma Education Foundation-Stephen Fine

This Week: 10/17 Greater Galway Food Pantry — Karen English
(Hybrid Meeting- Zoom/Town Hall)

Next Week: 10/24 24 Saratoga PLAN with Michelle Culbert
(Hybrid Meeting-Zoom/Town Hall)

Coming Up: 10/19 BH/BL Rotary Drive Thru Dinner
11/21 Multi-Club Dinner Meeting

No meeting on Monday October 31 – Halloween.

Note: Regular Zoom Meetings are held Mondays at 6:30 pm.

Check your e-mail inbox the day of the meeting for the computer Zoom link and password, as well as the phone number you can use to phone in if using your cell phone to participate.

Note: Many Meetings are now hybrid with an in-person option.
Please give suggestions for future programs to Darlene Bower & Peter Sawyer.

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

Karen English of the Greater Galway Food Pantry

Karen English returned to speak with us in person after a previous presentation on Zoom. The Galway Food Pantry is in the Galway Lions Building. The Galway Lions Club supports the Food Pantry with providing space, heat, and light. The pantry is open every Thursday from 10 am to 7 pm to all residents of the Galway Central School District. Currently there are 90 active families. There were 6 new families this summer.

Families qualify by meeting Federal Guidelines, but Karen stated that no one who comes with a need for food is turned away. She described special baskets of food prepared 4 times a year. There is tremendous community support with 80-90% of the sponsors from the community.

A program for the 35 active elderly (65 and older) provides \$300 toward their National Grid bill.

The Galway Food Pantry participates in the Regional Food Bank Program. The Food Bank collects large donations of food from the food industry and distributes it to charitable agencies serving hungry and disadvantaged people in 23 northeast New York counties. We learned that Dan and Sue Stec volunteer there once a week. They are a part of a team of 30 people that work 3 hours sorting and organizing the food. We also learned that food that is damaged and not fit for humans is given to a pig farmer or to a wildlife refuge agency.

Karen spoke about the food coming in various quantities. At times there are surprising shortages like “green beans”. She said personal items like soap, lotions, toothpaste are items for which there is always a need. Paper goods are also a good donation.

We appreciated seeing Karen again and may take her up on an offer of a tour of the Galway Food Pantry. Information is available on Facebook. There is an opening for a volunteer on Thursday at 2:30 to 4:45pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- This Wednesday, 10/19, the BH/BL Rotary Drive-Thru Dinner, prepared by Spartan Catering, will be held at the BH/BL High School. Orders were due 10/17, but let Gregg know if you missed that deadline. Rotarians who wish to help should come to the high school at 4:15.
- The Apple Pie Festival will be held at the Middle School on 11/8. Pete Sawyer gave an update:
 - Rather than individuals making apple pies, club members will be asked to donate \$20.
 - Tickets will be available at the next meeting.
 - There will be no door prizes this year, but we will sell raffle tickets beginning now. (Mike took an arm's length!)
 - Pete will be circulating a sign-up sheet for helping.
- Gregg shared information about the annual food drive run by our Interact Club. More information will follow. He also talked about the hats, scarves, gloves being collected for people in the war in Ukraine.
- The meeting was led by Pete Sawyer. Mike Brewster led the Four Way Test. Everyone, both in person and on Zoom, participated in Happy Dollars.

Reported by Mary Anderson