

Rotary Meeting, December 4, 2018     Editarian: Amy Remmert

The meeting was called to order by President-Elect Jeannie Brandenberger. The invocation was delivered by Laura Latiolais.

Jim Bridenstine - Art News. A little respect please while he announces the agenda for the week in the ARTs world.

**Visiting Rotarians** - Scott Peterson; from BC Sunrise Zackery Gant; from California, Bernadette Hensel

**Guests** - Deb Harris- Denny Stultz, Susan Sunday- Nancy Gregory, Tom Ihling - Scott Scrum, Bonnie - Maria Morebach, Keith Mumma – Nancy Stoddard, Berndette Hensel – Yvonne Knutsen

**Songs** - Susan Sunday - Jon Dillworth on Piano and Nathan Dannison on Violin Accompanied the members in singing “This Land is Your Land.”

Susan Sunday announced the Ride to end Polio raised \$1965. Also please consider Wednesday Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army Holiday fundraising.

**New Member Introduction** - Keith Mumma, Nancy Ruth Lee Stoddard - City manager of Parchment. Special thanks to BIL Keith Mumma for getting her involved in Rotary. Nancy got her start at Parsons Business School and returned to school after the kids were grown. She has a Business Administration degree from Western Michigan University and then attended Grand Valley for a Master’s in Public Administration. She has been at her current job as City Manager in Parchment for six months. Nancy is married with three children. She did a bang up job Banging the Gong.

**Bryan Zocher announcement:** The Board slate: Returning board members, President, Jeannie Brandenberger, Pres. Elect - Heather Isch, Treasurer - Lisa Anspaugh, Secretary - Nancy Peterson, Immediate Past President, Tim Kilmartin. Returning Board Members - Gary Kent- Backen, Troy Thrash, Dan Sytsma. New board members, Seth Wheeldryer, Steve Charnley, Dan Schut, Mary Zoeller

**Blood Bank:** Ken Young requested a show of hands for those willing to donate for a Rotary Blood Drive he wants to schedule in 2018 with either Michigan Blood or American Red Cross. We need 25 in order to have a drive solely dedicated to our club. We had 28 raise hands. Please keep it in mind if you weren’t there and let’s make it a good one. Date and time to be determined and announcement will be made soon.

**Adopt-A-Family**

Bob Squier announced the official kickoff of the Adopt-a-Family program for Christmas. Goal is \$500 for each of five families. Please see Bob Squier to support this wonderful effort.

**Speakers:** Dr. Stephanie Peterson specializing in Special Ed. Wants to insure all children have access to treatment for Autism.

Dr. Wayne Fuqua: Stated that Autism affects 1:68 children. This is a significant increase over years past. Statistics show that 46% of children with Autism have average or above IQ.

The reason we may be seeing an increase in reported cases of Autism is because we have expanded diagnosis: There is "Greater Awareness" and better screening: the provision of special education and other treatments have encouraged early diagnosis and motivate people to seek treatment.

Autism is genetic; shows chromosomal abnormalities; 15 % of cases appear to be associated with genomic symptoms; 85% show neurological environmental factors; and advanced parental age, low birth weight, prematurity and other factors may also have a significant impact. Myths about the causes of Autism include, MMR vaccine and others, antibiotics, mercury, diet (leaky gut, gluten).

What are some of the symptoms of Autism? No social smile or joyful expressions by 6 months, no back and forth sharing of sounds, no smiles or other facial expressions by 9 months, no babbling by 12 months, no back and forth gestures (pointing or showing) by 12 months, no single words by 16 months. These can range from mild to severe.

We need to encourage the parents to talk to their pediatrician about concerns. The lifetime costs of treatment range from 1.4M to 2.4M. There has been passage of legislation in 46 states mandating commercial insurance companies to cover evidence-based treatment. (Michigan pass their law in October 2012).

Stephanie: There are multiple programs at WMU dealing with the treatment of Autism. WMU Autism Center for Excellence Treatment Center will have expanded training, WMU provides Autism Services to their students, Kalamazoo Autism Center Croyden School, and the PROMOTES program - helps with employment skills.

Contact for more information:

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