**Mount Pleasant Rotary Club**

**P.O. Box 252**

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Facebook: Mt. Pleasant Rotary Club

**Rotary Roundup September 11, 2017**

##### Recap of August 28th, 2017 Club Meeting

***Carol Santini*** called the meeting to order and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

***Invocation:*** Bob Wheeler

***Greeters:*** Randy Dickinson and Richard Divine

***Guests:*** Al Slaggert, Klohe Campbell, guest of Krystal Campbell. Joseph Inunqu Professor of Public Health and Guest of Paul Siers. Tia, Granddaughter of Ken Schaeffer. Eileen Jennings introduced Israr’s Son.

***Announcements:***

* Bob Rulong passed away. The funeral will be Friday at 11 am at Clark Funeral Home.
* Paula Arndt spoke on Every Rotarian Every Year. We will need to put in a minimum of $26.50 per Rotarian to achieve our goal. Ken has started an envelope and it is going around starting today.
* Cory Friedrich reminded us the Rotary Run is tomorrow. Volunteers need to arrive to City Hall at 5:30 and we should end somewhere around 7:30PM. The fun run starts at 6:15 and the 5K at 6:30. Bring raincoats and umbrellas.
* Kathy Beebe informed us that Roterac has a good meeting and turnout. Their statewide conference is this year at October 21st. Mainstage had lots of sign ups and the first meeting is September 5th. Meetings are 8PM at Grawn Hall, room 201.
* Eileen Jennings announced that the club picnic will be 6PM September 11th at Tom Miles house- 3434 South Lincoln Rd. Bring a chair perhaps and a dish to pass. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided with lemonade and water to drink. We need about 2-3 volunteers to help set up and need to arrive at 5pm. Kayaking and tubing are possible. Contact Tom for more info and bring games if you have them. Alysha Anders Fisher volunteered to provide all the paper products and utensils.

**Music:** “Happy Birthday” to Tia and Alysha Anders Fisher. “When the Saints go Marching In” led by Eileen Jennings in Honor of Bob Rulong.

**Sergeant-at-Arms**: Rich Fleming

**Fines & Braggs:**

* Carol Santini was fined for stating she didn’t want to come to the Rotary meeting today.
* Jay Anders bragged for his daughter Alysha’s 30th birthday and his wife and his 31st anniversary.
* Rachael Blizzard let us know Mclaren has now on boarded 3 new doctors who have same day and next day appointments.
* Amy Powell gave us her last brag for Art Walk Central. The Judges roundtable will be tomorrow at City Hall after the Rotary Run. The Auction will August 29th from 7-9PM. Doors open at 5:30PM.
* David Nicholason shared a memory of Bob Rulong from back when he worked with PBS at CMU and Big Band music.
* Jasmine Eichinger bragged that she will celebrate her 10 year anniversary with her husband September 1st.
* Paul Seirs bragged for his Peter Seirs and Mr. B, a Jazz musician who attached a piano to a bike and rode to Mackinaw. From there the piano will be swam across the straits to Mackinaw Island and then he will put on a concert to support the Mr. B’s Joybox Express, a charity that supports Flint youth.
* Eileen Jennings spoke on her memory of Bob Rulong and his knowledge of the Negro Baseball League.
* Al Slaggert Thanked us all for the hospitality we have shown as he now returns to Vegas. He also thanked David for playing Frank Sinantra this Saturday.
* Rich Fleming spoke on the “Into the Light” program by the Community Cancer Services. This is a luminary walk; silent auction and is September 22nd at the fairgrounds. Luminaries are 25$ each.
* Trivia also was done by Rich regarding the foreign dignitary- the President of Finland meeting with Trump today. His son was a Mt Pleasant High School exchange student of the Rotary.

**Program:**

Tom Miles presented Israr, an Afghanistan native. Israr spoke on his native country and transition to the United States. In September 2007, he came to the US originally. Afghanistan bears a picture of extremist killing, Isis etc. No one talks about the good things. Afghanistan is bordered by many other countries. They are a corridor of trade between Asia, Europe, Middle East and Africa.

Afghanistan has seen an increase in education. Back in 2001, there were approximately 1 Million Students and less then 3% women. More recently they have approximately 13 million and 39% women. He has also seen a large increase in health clinics available to the citizens. Additionally, electricity available in the country has increase from 6% to 30%.

On the other hand, Israr stated Security is getting worse. He worked for the United Nations and has seen a huge decrease in security. Tax and assistance money given to Afghanistan was not well monitored and went corrupt to warlords. The rich are getting richer day by day and the poor are getting poorer.

He feels one thing that would help relationships is for more Afghan people to know people of the United States. They often have skewed ideas of the US.