

# Rotary Club of Dewitt

PO Box 131, Dewitt, NY 13214



SERVICE ABOVE SELF



DEWITTROTARY.ORG



BE THE INSPIRATION

MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2019

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| March 18 | <i>Admiral John Paddock</i>                           |
| March 23 | <i>Pancake Day Meeting<br/>9 am, Dewitt Firehouse</i> |
| March 25 | <i>WCNY Mitch Gelman</i>                              |



The meeting was called to order by President Linda Ervin with the singing of America the Beautiful and the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation was given by Tim Burns.

## VISITORS AND GUESTS

Sheila Austin and Pete Ludden from the Road to Emmaus Ministry; Jillian Carafa, daughter of Tom Carafa; Liz Henson, our outgoing student for next year, and her mother, Pat, and her guide dog, Everest.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dave Ziemba wanted to thank all those that helped at the Samaritan Center this past Saturday. Our next serving will be on 4-13.
- There will be a blood drive that we co-sponsor with the American Red Cross this Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> from 8-1. We have all the necessary volunteers but if you would like to give blood, please contact Cheryl Matt for an appointment.
- It's Official! **Pancake Day** will be May 18<sup>th</sup> from 7-2 in the **Marshall's Plaza** on Erie Blvd. The tent will be located between Best Buy and M&T Bank. Tickets are now available in packets of 25. Everyone is expected to sell at least one packet. Linda Cleary will be contacting everyone shortly

about their preferred working shifts. Two shifts are available, 7-11 and 11-2.

- The next meeting of the **Pancake Day Committee** will be this Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 9 am in the Dewitt Fire House. All are invited. The final meeting of the committee will be March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## PROGRAM

**Liz Henson** presented a short program on Guiding Eyes for the Blind, a non-profit organization that raises, trains, and donates dogs for blind people. Liz is currently helping raise a Labrador Retriever named Everest as part of the program. Everest was at lunch with us today.



Volunteer puppy raisers take a 2-month old Guiding Eyes puppy into their home for 14-16 months to socialize them to the world around them and teach basic obedience and good house manners. For more information, visit them online at [GuidingEyes.org](http://GuidingEyes.org) or at 866-GEB-LABS.

**Rotarian Tim Burns introduced Sheila Austin**, the President of Road to Emmaus Ministry. Road to Emmaus Ministry of Syracuse, Inc., a 501 (C) 3, not for profit organization, is a dynamic ministry that brings the presence of the Catholic Church to the poor, hungry, isolated, and homeless of the south side and the city of Syracuse, New York. By providing food, drink, clothing, visiting the sick and burying the dead, Emmaus Ministry puts flesh to the Gospels, in a true “missionary evangelist” spirit – “Taking the Gospel to the Streets.” With our many ministries we are able to act as disciples bringing unconditional love and hope to those in need. And, through this love and hope... lives are being transformed!

It all began In February 2008, when Father John Manno challenged St. James Church to reach beyond its walls and bring the presence of Christ to



**President Sheila Austin & Pete Ludden,  
Development Coordinator**

individuals and families impacted by poverty, drugs, crime and homelessness on the south side of Syracuse. As an answer to Father Manno’s challenge, the parishioners of St. James used

bologna sandwiches as its stepping stone to be of service and bring the love of Christ and the Catholic Church to those in need. Since then, Emmaus Ministry has reached thousands on the “periphery” in Syracuse, by performing corporal and spiritual works of mercy. Learn more about St. James.

On February 23, 2009, Emmaus Ministry brought their first hot meal to the Catholic Charities Men’s Shelter (The OX). That first trip outside the walls of St. James was pivotal. A homeless gentleman’s simple question that evening brought clarity to the ministry... “But will you come back?” Inspired by the Gospel of Luke, Emmaus Ministry parallels the disciples on the Road to Emmaus, where upon recognizing the resurrected Christ in their midst the disciples asked Jesus to, “Stay with us.” Emmaus Ministry is continually being called to “go and do likewise”, and by doing so, we too recognize Christ in the faces of those we serve. In 2013, newly elected Pope Francis said, “We must get out of ourselves and go to the periphery.” And today, in this “Year of Mercy”, Saint James Emmaus Ministry guided by Father Christopher Ballard, proudly meets both Pope Francis’s call and the challenge first put forth in 2008, by continuing with the resounding answer, “YES, we will be back!”

Their Mission Statement is clear: To perform volunteer outreach ministry including Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy for the purpose of providing

unconditional love, hope, support and the presence of the Catholic Church to the poor, hungry, isolated and homeless of the city of Syracuse, NY.

For more information, or to volunteer, go to their web page: [www.emmausministry.org](http://www.emmausministry.org).

### **HAPPY "JAY" DOLLARS**

Cheryl Matt, Mark Matt, Leo Eisner, Mel Rubenstein, Pat Henson, Sheila Austin, Dave Zubieta, Bob Cooper, Dave Schneckenberger, Linda Ervin, Tom Carafa

**50-50** was won by Dave Schneckenberger

***Respectfully submitted,***

***Michael F Miller***

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