



WEDNESDAY WRAP-UP

Of the Geneva, New York Rotary Club

www.GenevaRotaryClub.org

Miss a meeting? Make it up at
www.RotaryEClubOne.org

**Wednesday,
March 31,
2021**

Next Week:

Dave Cook opened the meeting with approximately 24 members on ZOOM. Thank you, Scooter Avedisian, for the flag.

Guests

Bruce Reisch and Robert Seem, on behalf of Friends of Parrott Hall and Dahlia Elizabeth Wist from Naples.

Announcements

- Rich and Sally Kasulke are temporarily residing on Bayard Street in Seneca Falls following water damage from a recent fire in their home on Carter Road. They expect to be there for 6-8 months.
- Venmo: we expect to have detailed information about setting up your payments, happy dollars, and birthday fund money on VENMO at next week's meeting.
- Dave Cook recently found time to read Ray Ciancaglini's book, **Second Impact**, and recommends it highly. In fact, he issued an "executive order" to any Rotarian with children and/or grandchildren be required reading. He designated Mary Lawthers to read it next. Ted Baker and Ruth Leo have already read it.
- Stephanie Hesler announced that all are welcome to attend a virtual District Training Assembly to be held April 10 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- For next week, see https://genevahistoricalandsociety.com/calendar-of-events/history-sandwiched-in-two-truths-and-a-lie-2/?mc_id=1708
- Jim Dickson (in absentia): clean-up day at the Seneca Lakefront is April 24th

Happy Dollars

- Stephanie Hesler: Fill The Smith results: \$40k raised, exceeding all expectations!

- Dave Cook: VENMO is up and running!
- Ted Baker: (sad) Geneva HS football team forced to forfeit Friday's game since they have only 14 active players
- Ted Baker: finally has a primary care physician and in a period of 103 hours total, he had a physical and a COVID vaccine!
- Scooter Avedisian: his younger son turned 16 recently and he now has driving-age sons.
- Johnny O: happy seeing Bob McCarthy sitting next to Ken Steadman at today's meeting
- Stephanie Hesler; Her younger son has been accepted into a study abroad program for 2022 in New Zealand
- Neil Sjoblom skied and paddled within the same 24 hour period.
- Mickey Gilbert-Schultz: happy to see the newest developments in the DOVE Block in downtown Geneva
- Jim Devaney played golf yesterday for the second time this year!
- Ruth Leo: goofed last week prematurely with listing March birthdays so we wished everyone happy birthday in chorus style today

Today's Program:

Kerry Lippincott introduced **Robert Seem and Bruce Reisch** on behalf of **Friends of Parrott Hall**.

Bob and Bruce presented a timeline to review the history of Parrott Hall beginning in 1754 and continuing to the present day's efforts to save and restore the building on West North Street in Geneva. The Old Castle Farm home (hence, Castle Street) was built in 1800-1810 by Charles Godfrey. The Denton Family purchased it in 1852 (with 200 acres) and it was transformed into an Italianate Style Mansion. In 1880, the New York State Experiment Station was established in Geneva and the Denton Property was purchased. Cornell gained control of the Station in 1923 and by 1942, the Denton House became Parrott Hall until 1969 when a new six story building opened, sending Parrott Hall into disuse. It was named a State Historic Site in 1970 but since then, it sat idle and eventually fell into disrepair, slated to be demolished in 2018. In 2019, a \$400k grant from the NYS Environmental Protection Fund was used to stabilize the building. Even though the building is technically still owned by State Parks, a combined effort by the Preservation League, the Landmark Society of Western NY, the City of Geneva, and Friends of Parrott Hall have combined efforts to save the building, hoping to restore it, beginning with the roof.

Anyone interested in the future of Parrott Hall may donate on the friendsofparrotthall.org website, contact Bruce at BIR1@cornell.edu or Bob at RCS4@cornell.edu. Rotarian Kerry Lippincott is on the board as are two Parrott family members. They are looking to expand this board in June as well.

Submitted by Carol Chester

Four way test:

"Of the things we think, say or do:"

- 1. Is it The Truth?***
- 2. Is it Fair to All Concerned?***
- 3. Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendships?***
- 4. Will it be beneficial for All Concerned?***

Dave Cook	Stephanie Hesler	Jerry Forcier	Ford Weiskittel	Bob McFadden	Mike Rusinko
President	President-Elect	Vice President	Secretary	Club Treasurer	Foundation Treasurer